FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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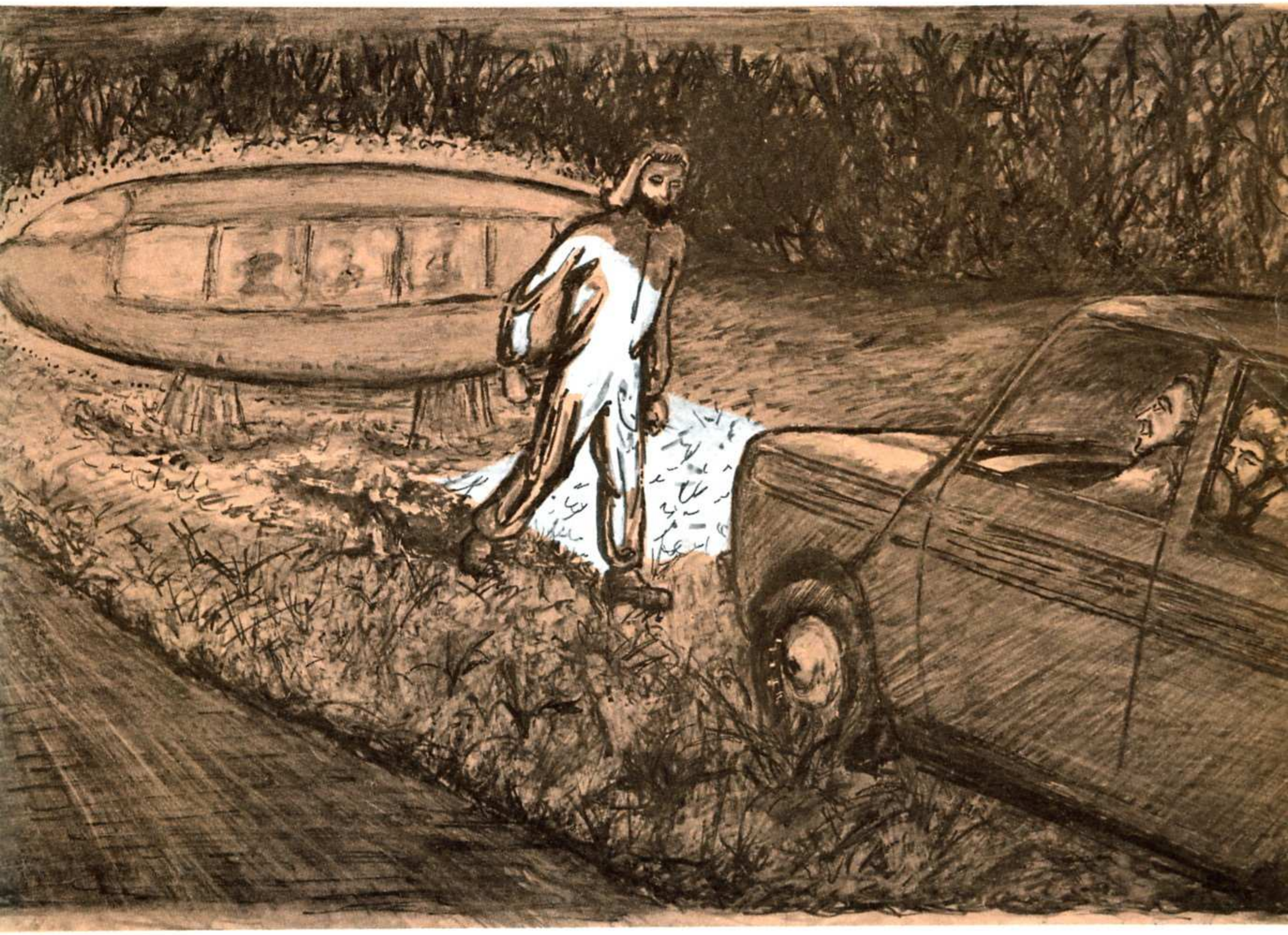

WINCHESTER ENCOUNTER

UFO landing, EM effects and occupants

See page 3

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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ABIDING INTEREST

STRICTLY SPEAKING the interest shown by *Flying Saucer Review* in reports of high altitude pass-overs of alleged unidentified flying objects has been minimal in recent years. Here and there a space-filler, occasionally a "puzzler," but generally speaking that interest has only heightened at times of vigorously reported low-level activity of other kinds, which includes alleged close viewings and closer encounters. For that is where most of the intriguing mysteries and burgeoning problems of this subject are to be found.

That too may have been the impression that many guests and newcomers gained at the recent successful conference of the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA), held in the forward-looking industrial and commercial city of Birmingham during the weekend November 5 to 7, 1976. For the very welcome guest of honour was FSR's old friend and contributor, Ted Bloecher, the vastly experienced researcher of CSI, of NICAP, and presently of MUFON and the Center for UFO Studies, who is also well-known as historian of the 1947 wave. And the paper which Mr. Bloecher gave, entitled *The Humanoids; an analysis of UFO Occupant cases*, was well-received and evoked great interest. Even the members of the Press who were present – whose colleagues earlier in the day had headlined the advance announcement of the meeting with a predictable gem, "Flying Saucer folk in town" – put aside their little green spectacles and stayed at least until Ted had shown his slides. One verdict, which appeared in the *Birmingham Evening News* of November 8, 1976, under the headline "Down to earth sky watchers" was that the people who had gathered together for this conference "...do not look like 'weirdos' " – for which small mercy we suppose we must be thankful. To be fair, the writer of the article presented a resume of Midlands incidents, and official reaction thereto, which she had gleaned from interviews with members of UFO Studies Information Service (UFOSIS), the Birmingham group which hosted the conference.

Judging by the rest of the newspaper report, which contained precious little about the conference, it is doubtful whether the newsmen – or women – heard the wide variety of technical and other papers which included contributions like "UFO waves and their prediction" by B. Delair; "The vehicle interference effect" by Anthony Pace; "A unified extra-terrestrial hypothesis in explanation of the UFO phenomenon" by Tim O'Brien; "A projected study of fluid vortex rings and plasma phenomena as an explanatory hypothesis for the UFO" by M. Stenhoff, and "They shoot UFOs, don't they?" a UFO-photography paper by Robert Digby. It is open to doubt too that they would have taken account of the considerable attention that BUFORA pays to data processing, photo analysis and investigation and assessment of reports of UFOs which include a large number which fit into the high pass-over category. Also they may not have seen the BUFORA publication *UFO Investigation – a handbook for UFO investigators** which devotes a large proportion of its space to the

* Enquiries to Miss Jenny Randles, 23 Sunningdale Drive, Irlam, Greater Manchester M30 6NJ.

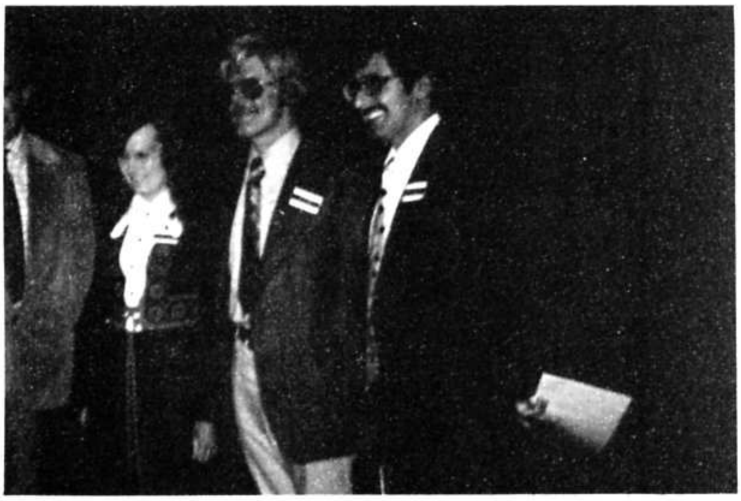
assessment of reports in the last-mentioned category.

Indeed to the casual reader among the newcomers to the subject, it might well appear that investigators are devoting an abnormal amount of time to astronomy, meteorology, plane spotting, balloon spotting, satellite watching and so on, especially when the summary of suggested hypotheses starts by stating, quite flatly, that the sightings involve mis-identifications of manmade or natural objects, or unknown new inventions, or un-studied, little-known natural events, or hoaxes.

All this may prove faintly discouraging to the newcomer, particularly if that newcomer has taken note elsewhere of the more spectacular events that have been reported. However, it is very necessary to "sanitize" the scene if the subject is to be treated scientifically, and to clear away the dead wood or extraneous items which so often find their way into the press and only serve to confuse the issue. For there are other more pressing matters on hand if we consider the remaining hypotheses in the BUFORA list: that the sightings could be of devices of alien advanced technologies either from elsewhere in our universe or beyond, or from unseen universes parallel to ours in space and time, parallel in space but not in time, or parallel in time but not in space; that they could be mental projections by, or received by, the witnesses; that the sightings are of intelligent processes beyond our space-time continuum, but not explicable in the other categories.

It is within the bounds of those last groups of hypotheses that the real abiding interest in this subject is to be found. Here fit the shortish-range observations, the great radar/visual reports, the strange hints of materialisation and dematerialisation, the occupant reports and the mysterious CE-III cases. If there are any doubts about that, then witness the interest in Ted Bloecher's address, in the articles, reports and features which FSR carries regularly, and in the alacrity with which the BUFORA and other investigators jumped into action when the news broke about the recent alleged UFO sighting, car interference and CE-III case in the Winchester by-pass area.

We'll close with an exhortation to all our readers and friends to maintain the abiding interest, to investigate reports objectively and carefully, to watch out for the many traps and pitfalls and – in the vein favoured by many of our correspondents in their letters – to "keep up the good work!"



Ted Bloecher centre with Jenny Randles and Roger Stanway

NEW EDITORIAL CONSULTANT

I am delighted to announce that Mr. Jonathan M. Caplan, MA (Cantab) has accepted an invitation to join our team as an editorial consultant. Already a member of the Board of Directors of FSR Publications Ltd, Mr. Caplan is well-known to readers for his contributions to our pages during recent years. He was a member of the Cambridge University group (CUGIUFO) of the 1960s. A Barrister-at-Law, Mr. Caplan is also a free lance journalist, and author of a new book *The Confait Confessions* (a critical study of the prosecution process in England) which is due for publication in April 1977.

STANWAY RESIGNS

A bombshell could hardly have had a more shattering effect than Roger Stanway's sudden resignation from his post as Chairman of BUFORA had on November 25, 1976.

Roger was always a good friend of FSR, ever since we first met in 1966; a welcome outcome of this friendship has been the growing collaboration between the Association and FSR, particularly during the last four or five years.

For some months it had been known privately that he had expressed a wish to resign, and that this was due to growing pressures in his private affairs which severely restricted the time he could make available for BUFORA affairs.

Now, without further warning, the threat has materialised in a sudden abandonment of BUFORA altogether, for Roger and his wife have found themselves caught up in the "...massive Christian revival sweeping throughout the world, the magnitude and nature of which most people seem quite unaware." Those are Roger's words, and at the end of his letter he states quite simply: "...I wish to put Christ first in my life and to devote more time to my wife and family. Furthermore, I now believe that the UFO phenomenon has satanic origins."

Roger's wise counsel, his devoted and unremitting work, will be sorely missed by everyone associated with ufology.

I am sure everyone will join me in wishing the Stanways well in their new life.

C.B.

UFO & SILVER-SUITED ENTITY SEEN NEAR WINCHESTER

This is a report based on investigations by John Ledner and the contributor who, as representatives of the Bournemouth Unexplained Phenomena Research Group, were the first UFO researchers to speak to the witness after the news of the incident broke on a regional TV programme. Mr. Harris, who has been a frequent contributor to *Flying Saucer Review* and *FSR Case Histories,* is editor of the Bournemouth Group's journal, *Scan.*†

Leslie Harris

SCAN was alerted to this case by a BBC television interview of the witnesses on the *South Today* news programme of Monday, November 15, 1976. My colleague, John Ledner, 'phoned the Southampton studios and obtained the telephone number of one of the witnesses, whom he then rang. She agreed to see us, and we visited both witnesses for about an hour, tape recording the interview. After leaving the witnesses, who were expecting a reporter to call, we travelled to the location of the encounter and examined the area. A further interview was conducted on Sunday November 28, and from these conversations the following report has been compiled.

The witnesses

Joyce Bowles, of Quarry Road, Winchester. 42 years old. Employed by British Rail as a powder room attendant.

Edwin (Ted) Pratt, of Nether Wallop. 58 years old. An ex-farm manager. Forced into early retirement by a heart condition.

Both witnesses appeared to be reliable, their stories remaining consistent throughout. They gave the impression of people wishing to relate a real experience in as concise and truthful a manner as possible. On our second interview they displayed a little impatience, but this is understandable as they have been subjected to much pestering by the media and various UFO people. In spite of this their accounts remained as originally stated, their conviction in the reality of their experience as strong as ever after two weeks after the event. The witnesses stated that they had not had any previous UFO experiences, although Mr. Pratt had read a Shuttlewood book, the title of which he could not quite remember but which appeared to be *The Warminster Mystery.*

The event

Mrs. Bowles (JB) and Mr. Pratt (EP) left JB's house at 8.50 p.m. on Sunday, November 14, 1976 to go to Chilcomb Farm, a distance of about three miles, to pick up JB's 17 year old son who was visiting his girlfriend at the farm. They were in a *Mini Clubman* belonging to JB, and she was driving. Turning on to the A272 they noticed an orange glow in the sky. After a moment or two it disappeared, then reappeared, although this time only JB saw it, and she thought it dipped down towards the low-lying road they were to turn into.

They then turned left into the Chilcomb road (map reference: SU 505290: also see Fig. 1). This is a narrow lane bordered on the right hand side by a grassy area about 15 yards in width, then bushes. Immediately on turning into this lane, the car began to "shudder and shake as though it were coming to pieces." JB could not keep control of the vehicle, and EP grabbed the wheel in an attempt to stay on the road, but to no avail. The car careered *diagonally* off the road, they said, and on to the grass verge where it eventually stopped. EP stated that it then started again by itself. Throughout this episode the engine of the *Mini Clubman* was roaring – although JB said she had removed her foot from the accelerator pedal – and the lights were blazing at four times their normal intensity.

As the car came to rest the witnesses observed a glowing, orange, apparently cigar-shaped object, 15 feet long, about 12–18 inches off the ground, and about 5 yards in front of the car. The engine was still "revving," so EP reached across and turned off the ignition. JB was now very frightened. The object appeared to have "jets" beneath it from which a "vapour" was issuing. In the top left portion of the object was a "window" with three heads looking out (see Fig. 2).

A "man" emerged from the object, although no door was evident – he just passed through the side of the object. This man was about 6 feet tall, of fairly slim build and was wearing a garment, silvery in colour, rather like a boiler suit made of cooking foil, with a zip-like device straight up to his chin. This garment seemed to flap although there was no wind. The man walked towards the car, reaching it in four to six stride His hands and feet were not particularly noticed. He wore nothing on his head, and the witnesses could see that he had long, blonde hair, brushed straight back from his forehead, curled up at the back, and a beard that was dark, reaching to his sideboards. His skin was pale and clear (see Fig. 3).

As he approached the car, JB heard "a whistling noise, not as loud as a whistling kettle," but EP did not notice this. Reaching the car, the man bent over, placing one hand on the roof, and looked

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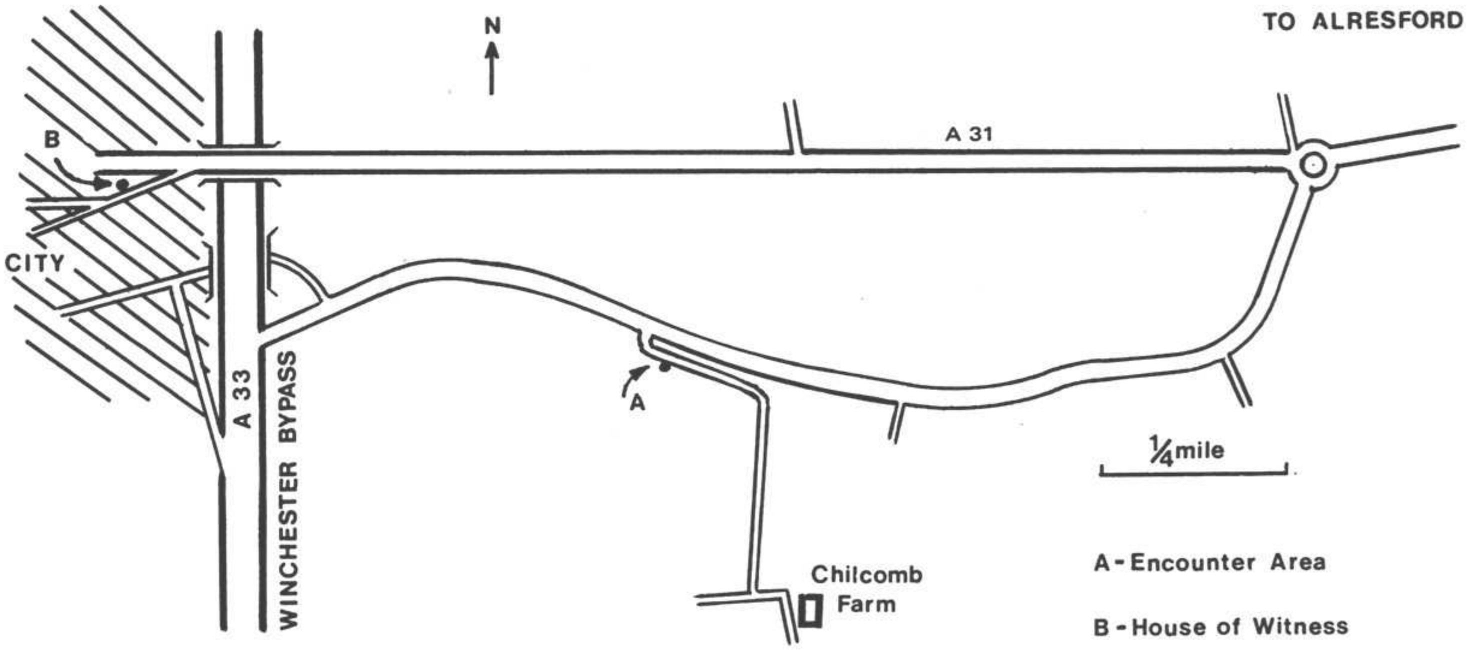
† Address: 8 Southill Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH9 1RL



Above: Fig. 1: Sketch-map showing the area of the encounter.
Below, left: photograph showing the section of the lane where the occurrence took place.

inside (see Fig. 4). His nose was not over-long, but pointed. His eyes were pink "like an albino rabbit," the whole eyeball being that colour, iris and pupil not discernible. JB recalled how the pink eyes of the individual had been so penetrating that, as she turned away, she could still see spots of light, rather like the effect of looking at the sun.

As he looked into the car, JB, in a state of intense alarm, grabbed hold of EP. She noticed that his clothes were unusually hot. EP said: "The man looked at me and I think transmitted some power which calmed me."

The man stopped at the side of the car for about 2 minutes, and then moved away to the rear of the vehicle. EP said he would get out but JB would not let him. The man did not reappear, and when the witnesses looked again to the front, the object had disappeared.

EP offered to drive as JB was considerably shocked and shaken by the experience, but she would not let him, as this would mean one of them getting out. So JB started the engine and tried to move forward, but the car would not move. It was as though they were pushing against an invisible wall which restrained them. The wheels spun and the engine stalled.* JB tried a second time, and this time was able to move off without difficulty. She stopped on the road, lit a cigarette, then drove on to pick up her son, a further ½ mile, arriving at Chilcomb Farm at 9.02 p.m. The incident had lasted about seven minutes.

On the return journey EP pointed out the tyre marks on the grass verge. He drove home that night at 60 mph very calm. He had not driven at more than 50 mph since an accident three years ago. The next morning he took his wife to see the tyre marks, but they had been almost completely obliterated, whereas the night before it had been possible to see where the car had "jumped from the road" to the verge.

Our investigation of the site proved inconclusive. The object itself had left no marks, and the area was soft and muddy with many tyre marks. The lane is a quiet one running close to the busy A272, but below it, and therefore out of sight of passing traffic (see photograph).

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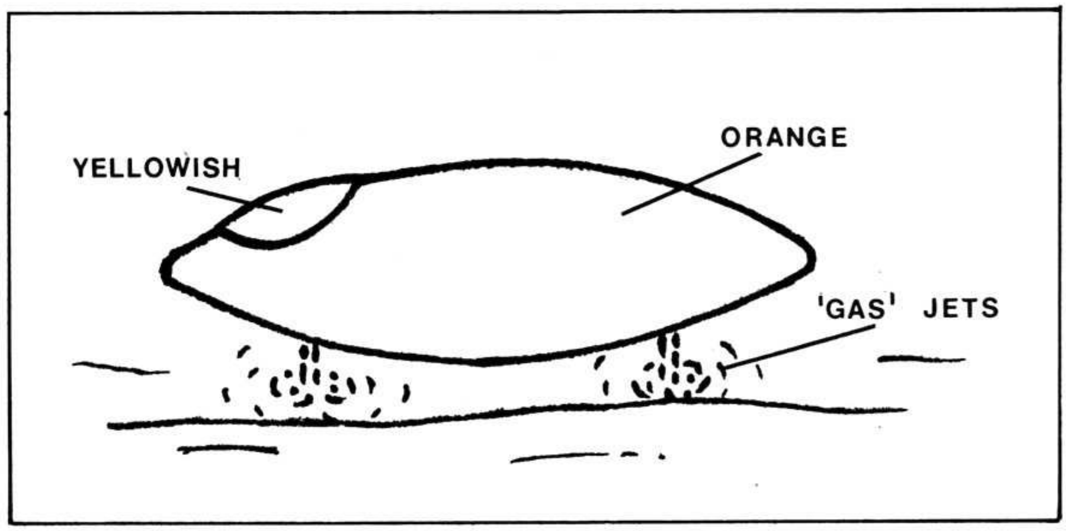
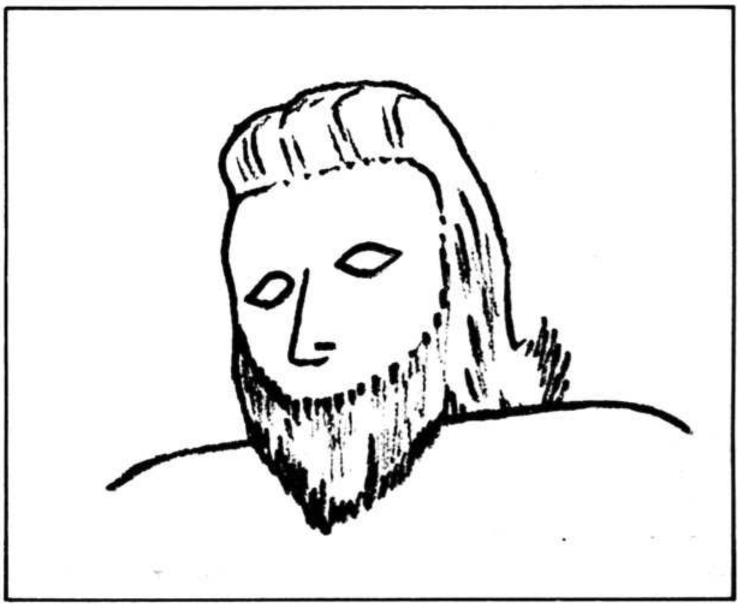
* [We had had two months of extremely wet weather to compensate for last summer's drought, and I suggest that soft earth and *mud* could have been the reason: I had a similar problem on a grass verge early in November — EDITOR FSR].



Left: Fig. 2
Sketch showing the object as it appeared to the witnesses.
Below, right: Fig. 3
The "man" as described by the witnesses.



After-effects

EP felt calm and relaxed for a week after the incident.

JB told us that her car now performs better than before the incident, and she no longer needs to use the choke. She was unable to eat for three days after the incident, and remained very shaken for some time. She now occasionally suffers from a rash on the right hand side of her face, especially after visiting the location of the incident. The watch she was carrying in her pocket on the night of the encounter has begun to gain considerably. She says she now feels "a different person" with renewed inner strength.

Follow-up investigation

Our second visit to the home of Mrs. Bowles produced further interesting information.

On Saturday, November 20, Mrs. Bowles received a telephone call from a well-spoken man telling her not to speak to anyone about her experience, and she would shortly be visited by a man from the government. She says she told the caller, in no uncertain terms, what she thought of his warning, and hung up. A few hours later the same man rang again, but as soon as she recognised his voice Mrs. Bowles put down the receiver. She had received no further calls from him on the date of our visit, nor had she been visited by any governmental representative.

Her telephone, however, is sometimes giving an "engaged" signal when answered, which persists even if the receiver is replaced then picked up again. Also, the telephone extension bell in the kitchen sometimes now tinkles a short time after a call has been terminated, although a call was received during our visit and no such effect occurred on that occasion.

Psychic effects

In answer to questions during our initial visit, Mrs. Bowles revealed that a form of poltergeist manifestation frequently occurs in her presence. This information came to light through our questioning — Mrs. Bowles did not volunteer the information, nor did she appear anxious to discuss it. On our second visit we raised the topic again and were able to take it a little further.

Since childhood, says Mrs. Bowles, she has been accompanied by psychic manifestations. These occur in her home, at her place of employment, even inside her car. They take the form of objects moving themselves about or flying through the air. On one occasion some polythene bags moved from the rear seat to the front seat of her car, *Mrs.* Pratt also witnessing this event.

Mrs. Bowles indicated chips in the paintwork on her sitting-room door, and told us that these were caused by some small candlesticks on her mantlepiece flinging themselves across the room. These phenomena only occur when Mrs. Bowles is present and seem to follow her wherever she goes.

Mrs. Bowles also frequently sees the ghostly figure of a white-robed lady, which she describes as a nun. Other people have also seen this lady, but none see her as clearly or in such detail as Mrs. Bowles. However, Mrs. Bowles was insistent that the silver-suited man encountered by Mr. Pratt and herself at the roadside, was totally different — far more "solid" than the nun, who has been seen in Mrs. Bowles' home, her garden and her place of work.

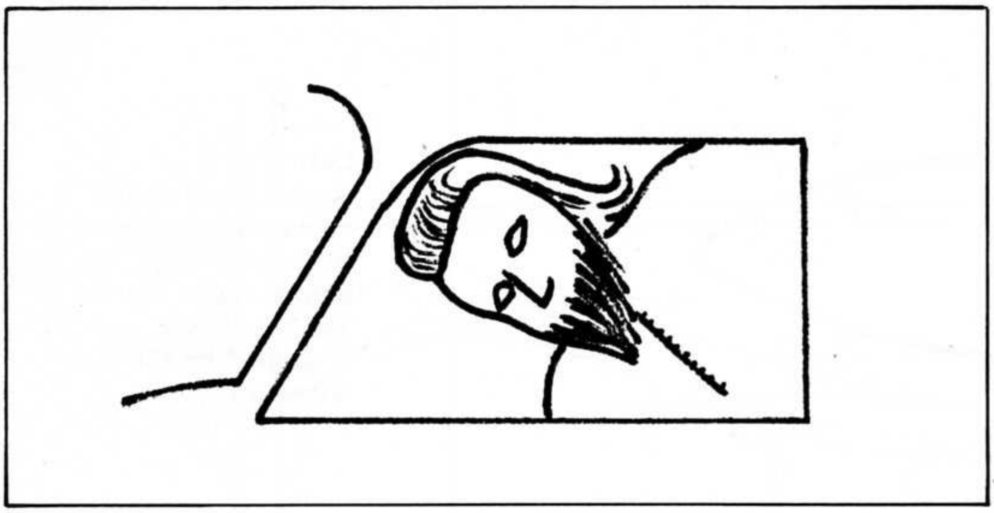


Fig. 4. The "man" places one hand on the roof of the car and looks in.

Mrs. Bowles feels that this spiritual force is benevolent towards her, as she finds her car door locks by itself should she forget to do it.

Mrs. Bowles also told us that she is a healer, and the psychic activity tends to build up until she uses her healing power, at which time the phenomena cease for a while, then gradually build up again. There has been none of this activity since her UFO experience.

Supplementary reports

During the weekend of the Winchester incident the following were reported:

Mr. and Mrs. Haines saw a silver-suited man near the Chandlers Ford hypermarket, seven miles from the scene of the Winchester sighting.

Mrs. Sandra Wheeler of Horton Heath saw a hovering orange object, which then went away.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Boise of Eastleigh saw "two suns" in the sky at Alresford, 5½ miles from the scene of the Winchester sighting.

Mrs. Atkinson of Portsmouth was driving home from Swindon with a car full of people when they saw a large object in the sky with "lots of lights."

Mrs. Maureen Lovley of Winchester watched an unknown aerial object for twenty minutes.

Mrs. Josephine Rose and family at her mother-in-law's house at Alresford saw a bright object hover for ten minutes.

P.J. Baker of Shirley, Southampton, saw an orange-hued disc at about 7.00 p.m. on November 14, while visiting Curbridge. A friend also reported the same phenomenon.

The foregoing reports have not been investigated by *SCAN*.

Conclusions

Although there is no proof of any kind that the story told by Joyce Bowles and Edwin Pratt is genuine, the supplementary reports would seem to support it. Also, it is hard to see what motive there could be for fabricating it; indeed, the publicity it has received has resulted in considerable ridicule aimed, not only at the witnesses, but also their families. Their impatience with the whole affair was quite evident during our second interview.

The psychic aspects of the case may have some significance. Mrs. Bowles evidently possesses such latent psychic energy that it manifests in apparent poltergeist activity, and only by using this energy for healing purposes can it be reduced sufficiently to stop these disconcerting occurrences.

If this is so, her UFO experience could be an extension of this phenomenon, her psychic energy either *producing* the event in some way, or a force of which we know nothing *using* the power latent in Mrs. Bowles to manifest and become visible to the two witnesses.

Whatever the answer, we feel it should no longer be doubted that psychic power and manifestations have some connection, however tenuous, with UFO experiences and their associated phenomena.

However, care must be exercised in this study which has no precedents or guidelines. There are many pitfalls on the road to Magonia.

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UFO AND OCCUPANTS REPORTED NEAR WINCHESTER

Richard Nash

A summary taken from the tape recording of an interview with Mrs. Joyce Bowles and Mr. Ted Pratt conducted by Mr. Nash of the Wessex Group (WATSUP) on behalf of the British UFO Research Association. The date of the interview was November 16, 1976, one day after the first interview of the witness by Leslie Harris and John Ledner, and two days after the incident. This summary, which contains some additional details, was prepared for FSR by Jenny Randles.

EDITOR

THE proceedings commenced with Mrs. Bowles giving a description of the entity (B = Mrs. Bowles, P = Mr. Pratt; N = Nash) . . .

B: Roughly about 6ft 4ins. Like a fringe of hair on the front. With the hair flicked up at the back. Pink eyes. A longish nose. Sideboards more or less adjoining the beard. He was just looking into the car at me."

"I would say that it was a boiler suit he had on... It was silvery. Very much similar to 'bacofoil.' It was sort of shimmering all of the time... and like on a windy day when your clothes are just sort of blown outwards... that's exactly how it was.

N: Did it have any fastenings?

B: There was a seam up through the neck. That is what I think.

N: Was there a zip?

B: No. Not to my knowledge.

N: Was it a high neck collar, or did it have lapels?

B: No lapels at all. It went right up and sort of had an extra thickness.

N: Rather like a polo neck?

B: Yes.

Mrs. Bowles now gave a basic description of how the car was affected when it confronted the object...

B: The car started to shudder and slide. The steering wheel appeared to lock. Ted (Pratt) grabbed the steering wheel because it appeared as if the car were lifted off the ground, but whatever he did he could not move it. The car gradually drifted right across near to a hedge, and we felt a bump which I gather was our car stopping dead, without turning off the ignition, when we saw this thing that we call a UFO.

N: Did you apply the brakes?

B: No. I never touched the car at all.

N: Why do you think the UFO was the cause of the car's failure?

B: The way that the car reacted...

N: How far away from you was the UFO when the car failed?

B: Roughly five yards.

N: Did the UFO display any unusual lights when the car failed?

B: No, but my lights did... after we saw the UFO, and the gentleman got out, my lights were four times their (normal) power. They just lit up. Mr. Pratt turned off my car ignition because the car had stopped dead. Now without the ignition being turned on the car engine started up.

N: During the malfunction of the vehicle was the UFO still in sight?

B: Yes.

N: When you restarted the car did you notice anything still not working?

B: When I started the car to go it was like an invisible barrier. Like hitting a brick wall. We could just not move. As I put it into first gear to move away whatever I did I could just not move the car.

N: Was this after the UFO had disappeared?

B: Yes.

N: Did you see the object descend and land?

B: To me it did not land. It appeared to be hovering. This is just my theory of it. It seemed like steam or vapour coming out from jets underneath.

N: Did the man appear from the object itself or was he just there?

B: No. He appeared from the object. There were three people in it. I could see their heads and shoulders. The gentleman I saw appeared from the object.

N: How did the man come from the object? Did a door open?

B: No. He just more or less stepped out, as though he were walking through something, and walked over towards my car window. We both think, but I am not sure, that he must have put his hand on the roof of the car, because he had to bend down to look in...

N: Did he have to pass through anything like a hedge or open a gate?

B: No nothing at all...

N: Could you describe the object?

B: I don't think that we saw it all. I only think we saw part of it. What I did see was a large cigar with little windows, not round but more oval.

N: How big was it compared with the car?

B: What we could see of it – 15 or 16 feet.

N: Could you see another rim? Was it possibly circular?

B: I do not know.

N: Did you hear anything?

B: The only thing that I heard, although Mr. Pratt did not, was when this gentleman was walking towards the car. It was not so loud as a whistling kettle, though it sounded very much like one, but much quieter. As he was walking it appeared as if there was a faint whistle."

Mrs. Bowles then describes the completion of the experience...

B: What happened to my knowledge was that he looked at me, and then glanced at the dashboard. You could see his eyes move. Ted said that he also looked at him. I did say to Ted 'He has gone around your side,' but I just saw a movement. I thought he was going around the side of the car. Mini Clubman estates are all glass and consequently Ted was looking back behind the car, looking all around I think. It would be my guess. That is when they went. Joycey had her eyes shut tight clinging like hell (NB: 'Joycey' is herself, Mrs. Bowles)

N: Did you see it take off?

B: No.

N: Did either of you get out of the car after the UFO had gone?

B: No. I drove to fetch my son. What do you think I am getting out of the car! My car started on its own, without the ignition key being switched on, when this man glanced along the dashboard. The car was in neutral gear.

Mr. Pratt now was interviewed. (I had no option but to conduct this interview–RN). He described the object...

P: The craft looked to me cigar shaped. I might have been wrong because it was at an angle to the position of the car. It was glowing orange in colour. The cockpit or control room had a curvatured glass window. It was dull golden yellow inside. I would not say if it had a line around it. After that my attention

was drawn to that man or humanoid, or whatever he was. If a door had opened I would have seen this yellow glow. If we had had a camera we could have certainly photographed it, because the glow of this thing and that of our lights, which were almost white, would have given a beautiful picture. I think it was glowing orange, and not actually coloured so, because when this man disappeared from the car it went completely black.
N: Was it in front of anything?
P: No. After I looked around to see if this man was looking around my side, and then looked back again, the orange glow was gone. It was just like looking into the void of space.

Finally Mr. Pratt described what he considered to be a power given him by the entity...
P: He looked at me with those piercing pink eyes. He gave me a power. I am sure he did. I was cool, and not frightened. My concern was for Mrs. Bowles. He gave me power to console her. I am positive because I suffer with angina (heart condition). If I had not had this power, and had been really frightened, I am sure I would have had a heart attack. Through this power I had no ill effects.
N: Do you now have an unusual power of calming people?
P: Yes... I am still calm and able to make decisions.

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS ON THE NASH INTERVIEW

Jenny Randles

Miss Randles is BUFORA research co-ordinator* and secretary of NUFON

AFTER listening to the recording of the interview by Richard Nash, transcribing it, and preparing the foregoing account, I would like to ask a few questions and make a few points...

1: Note Mr. Pratt refers to the entitity as a *humanoid.* Do we know how he was familiar with this term just 36 hours after the event? [*He had met Messrs. Harris and Ledner less than 24 hours after the event* – EDITOR].

2: Are we certain of the sequence of events which concern the start and restart of the car? Presumably Mr. Pratt turned the car off and put it in neutral *before* the entitity looked at him and allegedly calmed him. Yet this seems a remarkably cool and calculated act under the circumstances.

3: I am not quite sure how the car can have been so close to the object on a grass verge by the road side and yet the object was supposedly *not* in front of anything (such as trees, hedges etc in the adjacent fields).

4: If the orange glow was as strong as suggested by Mr. Pratt would it not have been immediately detectable if it had disappeared even if he were not looking directly at the object? He claims to have only noted the disappearance on looking back. Is not the eye very sensitive to such things?

5: The report from Frank Wood states that *both* witnesses were looking back to see the entity walk around the car, yet Mrs. Bowles quite clearly states that she had her eyes closed and was huddled close to Mr. Pratt.

6: There also seems to be uncertainty about the size of the object. On the tape it was described as 15–16 feet. Yet Frank Woods gives a smaller estimate. [*According to Harris and Ledner it was 15 yards!* – EDITOR].

7: Can we check which direction the car drove *off* the verge? If it were so close to the object did it pass over where the object *was*? If the report is genuine it would appear possible that the object and force field were still present after the 'disappearance' (possibly invisible) before the car would move.

* BUFORA enquiries to: 23 Sunningdale Drive, Irlam, Gtr. Manchester M30 6NT.

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Reply to Box No: 20, FSR.

ALLEGED CE-III AT WINCHESTER: VEHICLE EXAMINATION

Together with a few other matters of interest

Frank J. Wood, B.Sc.

This contribution is based on two reports prepared for the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA) on November 17 and 20, 1976.

FOLLOWING preliminary investigations of the close encounter with UFO and occupant, claimed to have been experienced near Winchester on Sunday, November 14, 1976, by a motorist, Mrs. J. Bowles and her passenger Ted Pratt, it was essential to learn as much as possible about the vehicle which was involved in the incident.

The first inspection took place at Mrs. Bowles' house in Quarry Road on Wednesday, November 17. I used the BUFORA Questionnaire on Vehicle Behaviour, and the answers which follow are in the order the relative questions appear in the checklist.

I

1. Name of driver: D. Joyce Bowles aged about 40-45, married with at least 3 children. Employed at Winchester railway station.
2. Owner of vehicle: as in 1.
3. Vehicle details: British Leyland Mini Clubman, registered July 1976, 'P' registration. Engine, believed to be model 10H* (1098 c.c.) with manual gears. Colour of body: white with horizontal metal strips of simulated wood grain (brown) as trim.
4. Dashboard instruments
   i Speedometer
   ii Mileometer
   iii Fuel gauge
   iv Temperature gauge
   v Ignition light
   vi Main beam headlamp indicator
   vii Oil pressure warning light
   viii Trafficator/hazard light repeater lamps.
5. Electrical generation by alternator, probably fitted with integral transistorised regulator.*
6. Instrument readings noted. Driver reports she was just accelerating away from a sharp corner, in third gear, at an estimated speed of 15-20 m.p.h. when the first malfunction occurred. A few seconds earlier she had dipped her headlamps on the main road before turning off, and had then returned to full beam to negotiate the corner. She had no recollection of any abnormal functioning of the warning lamp. She would have used her left trafficators to turn off the main road, and these would have automatically cancelled by the time she emerged from the bend. The incident occurred some 100 yards beyond the bend. On this car, the instrument panel light comes on with the side and tail lights and there is no option to switch it off.

Mileometer reading has not yet been checked. It is estimated at under 2,000 miles, but will check this on return visit November 20.* Mrs. Bowles drives the car about 12 miles per day every working day.
7. Gear Changes: Turned off the by-pass probably in second, but changed up to third before the incident, and was in this gear when car stopped. Will recheck* whether engine has stalled or raced at this point, before Mr. Pratt switched off the ignition and put the gears to neutral. After the encounter, Mrs. Bowles tried to drive off in first gear, but the car would not move. (She was by this time on a fairly wet and muddy grass verge.) At second attempt the car moved off.
8. Answered under 6 above.
9. Car had been driven for about 5 to 10 minutes before the sighting, having been taken out of its garage. Choke was used for starting, but Mrs. Bowles was sure it had not been left out. Performance was quite normal up to time of incident.
10. Nature of malfunction: Car become jumpy, and rattled before stopping dead. Before stopping the steering locked solid, and car appeared to move sideways, lifting off the ground before coming to rest on grass verge.

Mrs. Bowles did not think the car had a lock on the steering wheel, but on studying the manual, I find that it has. The jumpy action and the locking of the steering appear consistent with the possibility that in operating the dip-switch on the right hand steering column stalk, the driver may have inadvertently touched the bunch of keys suspended from the ignition switch and turned the ignition off without realising it. It is also consistent with the less probable possibility of an external influence inhibiting the operation of the ignition circuit.

Mrs. Bowles confirmed that there had been frost earlier in the evening at her house (on high ground) but that it had melted by the time she went out. It is possible that the road could still have been icy on the lower sheltered ground where the incident occurred (about 170 ft. lower, according to the O.S. map, although only ½ mile away as the crow flies). In view of the ungated fields along the lane, and evidence of recent tractor and/or lorry tyre marks in these fields, there might well have also been mud on the road on Sunday night. Either factor could have caused the car to skid when the engine suddenly stopped. It has been noted by Richard Nash that there were no skid marks at the

* Indicates points to be checked out on Saturday, November 20.

point in question, and that the wheel marks on the grass verge did not extend to the edge of the roadway. A skid on ice would not leave any rubber deposit on the road, and if the surface of the grass verge closest to the road was harder than that further over, it might not have been affected as much by the weight of the car.

Lights: Mrs. Bowles did not notice what happened to the lights initially, but she did attribute the ability to see the face of the "stranger" to the moonlight and the light from her car lights. When the stranger looked towards the instrument panel, the headlamps are said to have increased in brilliance to "four times their normal brightness," but without burning out any bulbs.

I would suggest that consideration be given to the possibility that a wisp of mist or smoke passing through the beams of the headlights could cause such an apparent effect.

Mr. Pratt had already switched off the ignition (or, being unfamiliar with a new car could he have switched it on instead of off?). When the stranger looked at the instrument panel, the engine started up, although Mrs. Bowles' feet were nowhere near the accelerator and the engine raced very fast. (This might also have contributed to the brightness of the headlamps.)

Instruments and other mechanisms: Nothing unusual noticed. Radio not in use.

11a. Restarting of engine. As recorded above, it appeared to start spontaneously when the stranger looked at the instrument panel. Not yet checked how the engine stopped after this phenomenon. Will ask Mrs. Bowles or Mr. Pratt November 20.

11b. When restarted conventionally, the ignition switch worked normally, engine started in neutral gear. When first gear was engaged car would not move, but no report of it stalling. (Wheelspin on the wet muddy grass?) At the second attempt it did move. Mrs. Bowles was in no state to observe in detail precisely how it performed. I may be able to get more details from Mr. Pratt.

12. Heater and boost fan were not being used, but the normal position of the heater control knob is with hot water fed into the heater, so I will recheck this point. Mrs. Bowles does not use fan because of load on battery, but this would not apply to the hot water valve.

13. Petrol Engine, water cooled, front mounted.

14. Four star petrol always used. Tank was apparently nearly empty, as Mrs. Bowles filled up on Monday mornings. (Possibility of rain water in bottom of tank causing engine to stall, especially after negotiating a corner! I will check at what point on the petrol tank the petrol line emerges.* I could also check contents of tank with a siphon, to check for water.*)

15. Petrol pump is mechanical (S.U. model).

16. Ignition is by conventional coil/contact breaker/ distributor.

17. Last serviced by a mechanic friend of the family 6 weeks ago.

18. Battery has given no trouble before or after the incident. I could check its voltage and specific gravity, but doubt if it would be relevant.

19. Mrs. Bowles has been driving for 6 years, probably something around 10,000 miles.

20. Metal Objects: i. Vehicle is largely of metal construction, no obvious signs of damage during cursory inspection in failing light, but will carry out closer examination on Saturday. Some signs of magnetisation noted with a compass needle, but not knowing what signs are normal cannot as yet express much opinion.

ii. On person: Less metallic material carried on the person, my thoughts immediately turned to her jewellery, a gold wedding ring and an eternity ring on the wedding ring finger. I asked her whether she had noticed any discomfort connected with the rings. She looked astonished and said yes, she had but had not connected it with the incident. On Monday morning she had been unable to wear her eternity ring because her finger was sore under the wedding ring. She showed me, and it did look rather red, and seemed to be peeling in the manner of the after effects of too much sun. She had attributed this to the detergent she used for washing up, but never having had trouble with it before had been puzzled. Before jumping to the conclusion that high frequency magnetic fields had induced eddy currents in the ring and burned her slightly, we must consider her nervous state and the possibility of unconscious fidgeting with the ring causing abrasion, or merely a nervous reaction of the skin. Note that on Monday [Nov. 15] she also had a pronounced rash on the right side of her face and body, the side nearest to the stranger. If only a nervous reaction, would it have been confined only to that side. What a pity she didn't consult a doctor while the rash was in evidence. Do we have any medical practitioners in BUFORA?

21. Body of the vehicle, including roof, is mainly metal. I will check with magnets on Saturday how much of it is steel.

22. No changes of air temperature felt by witnesses. Mrs. Bowles, who clung in terror to Mr. Pratt during the incident, thought he felt hot – or was it that fear made her cold? Either way these temperature changes were likely to be emotional rather than atmospheric.

23. Mrs. Bowles has the impression that the performance of the car has improved since the incident. It starts very easily even at 6 a.m. when she sets off for work, and runs more smoothly than before. It is sometimes recommended to race the engine of a new car occasionally to polish the cylinder bore. Perhaps this happened when the engine raced spontaneously. No damage to wiring detected so far but will check thoroughly on Saturday.

24. No modifications have been made to the car which is in showroom conditon.

25. Will check that regulator functions correctly on Saturday. This is one item where the opinion of a Mini expert or Lucas expert would be useful.

II

I revisited the scene of the incident in daylight, and the home of Mrs. J. Bowles to examine her car in more detail than had been possible on November

17. I also had to ask Mrs. Bowles a number of supplementary questions which had arisen during study of the results of the first interview.

A: Further information relevant to the Questionaire on Vehicle behaviour

Question 3: Confirmed that engine type is 10H. Engine Number 10H791AA-44177. Registration number of vehicle SAA 749P.
Question 5: There are three leads from the alternator unit, two of which connect to the live side of the battery supply at the starter solenoid. The handbook is not explicit as to whether the alternator has an integral transistorised regulator, and short of stripping it down it was not possible to check. It is thought likely that on a 1976 model car it would be.
Question 6: Mileometer reading on Saturday November 20 was 3571, therefore on Sunday November 14 it would have been about 3500 miles.
Question 7: Gearbox is manual, with 1, 2, 3, 4 and Reverse gears. On leaving the main road, the corner (a virtual hairpin bend) was taken in second gear. Mrs. Bowles changed up into third gear, and was in this gear when the car stopped. The road at this point was straight and downhill with a gradient which I estimate at about 1 in 20.

The sequence of events was as follows: Mrs. Bowles saw ahead of her and to the left, quite high in the sky, an unfamiliar orange light. She remarked to Mr. Pratt; "Good God, whatever is that," and while her attention was attracted to it, the car engine cut out, the steering locked and the car vibrated violently as it came to rest. As it came to rest the car is said to have moved diagonally forward and to the right, apparently floating through the air, and came to rest on the grass verge. Mr. Pratt grabbed the steering wheel saying: "Look out girl watch where you are going," or words to that effect. The engine having cut out, Mr. Pratt switched off the ignition and put the gear lever into neutral. Mrs. Bowles cannot remember whether or not she set the handbrake.

The ignition switch on this model is on the right hand side of the steering column, with the axis of rotation of the key pointing towards the driver's door. Mr. Pratt normally drives a large Vauxhall, so the ignition key, as well as being on the far side of the steering column from him, might have been fairly unfamiliar, the car being only 4 months old. It is therefore possible that he could have turned the key on, while thinking he was turning it off. This presupposes that by some means, as indicated in my original report, the ignition key had been inadvertently turned off already. Mrs. Bowles was sure that he had in fact switched it off.

I tried to simulate the inadvertent switching off of the ignition while operating the dip-switch and came to the conclusion that unless Mrs. Bowles clenched her fist behind the dip-switch stalk when operating it, or her hand slipped, it was not possible to touch the keys while operating the dip-switch.

While carrying out this experiment, I noted that the ignition switch was in fact faulty, it being possible, in at least one position, to push the barrel down at least 1/8" in its housing. This suggests a distinct possiblity that a faulty switch could have caused the engine to stop.

I suggested to Mrs. Bowles that she should get it repaired under guarantee, and I asked Arnold West to repeat this suggestion when he visited her on Sunday, because if this was the cause of the car suddenly stopping, it might be on a main road next time with far more dangerous consequences.

A faulty switch could also explain the spontaneous restarting of the engine when the "stranger" looked through the car window. In her fright, Mrs. Bowles cringed away from him, and clung desperately to Mr. Pratt. The sudden movement in the car might have been enough to cause an intermittent contact to make, and the surge of current in the coil could cause a cylinder to fire if its piston had stopped at Top dead centre.

Assuming that the engine had turned over a few revolutions after the ignition first went off, the mechanical petrol pump would continue to supply petrol to the cylinders which could well have become overcharged with petrol, so causing the engine to race once it fired again. There is a capacitor in a transistorised regulator, so if the engine came on suddenly and ran up to high speed, it is possible that there would be a delay in the regulator taking effect, the alternator would feed excessive volts to the circuit and the lights might become unusually bright for a second or so.

If it was for only a second or so, perhaps they would not have time to burn out before they returned to normal brightness.

The car has a front wheel drive. Mrs. Bowles and her husband told me that this is the third successive front wheel drive car which she has owned, the others being an older Mini and an Allegro. She prefers a front wheel drive, having been taught to drive with one.

When the engine stopped, all the braking effect would be on the front wheels; the car was descending a hill, the rear end would tend to lift, and in fact may even have lifted off the road. If, as was quite possible, the road was icy, the car would also have tended to skid, slewing round, but presumably the front wheels are linked through a differential gear, so they would not necessarily have equal braking effects.

Mrs. Bowles insisted that the car continued to point in a forward direction but moved diagonally on to the grass verge, which at this point is some 50 ft. wide, being more of a picnic area than a grass verge.
Question: Lights. At the suggestion of Arnold West, I checked whether the headlamps were interlocked with the ignition. They were not.

I suggested to Mrs. Bowles that the apparent increase in brightness of the lights might have been due to a wisp of mist or smoke passing through the beams. She insisted that such was not the case, there was definitely no mist about, and the brightening had the effect of illuminating the road ahead more brightly, not of throwing back reflected light.
Question 11: Restarting the engine. Mrs. Bowles could not say how long the engine ran when it

restarted spontaneously, but it stopped again spontaneously without any attempt to switch it off. She reminded me that it had already been switched off.
Question 12: When I examined the car on Saturday, the heater control was in the normal (in) position, which according to the handbook would supply hot radiator water to the heater.
Question 14: I did not have time on Saturday to check for water in the petrol, but in view of the faulty ignition switch and the locking of the steering wheel, I do not think we need to look in that direction to explain the engine cutting out. I did, however check the location of the fuel pipe emerging from the petrol tank. It emerges from the front of the tank (which is located behind the back wheels) at a height about 2" up from the bottom, and about 6 inches to the offside of the centre line.
Question 18: I did not have time to check the battery, but when I tried the starter, it seemed lively enough. At only 4 months old, it has no reason to be suspect.
Question 21: On checking with a small magnet, it was found that the bodywork of the car was all made of steel except for the front grille which was probably an aluminium alloy.
Question 23: On Saturday, the engine and wiring under the bonnet were inspected, and no signs of damage or overloading were apparent.

B: Other general observations not related to the vehicle

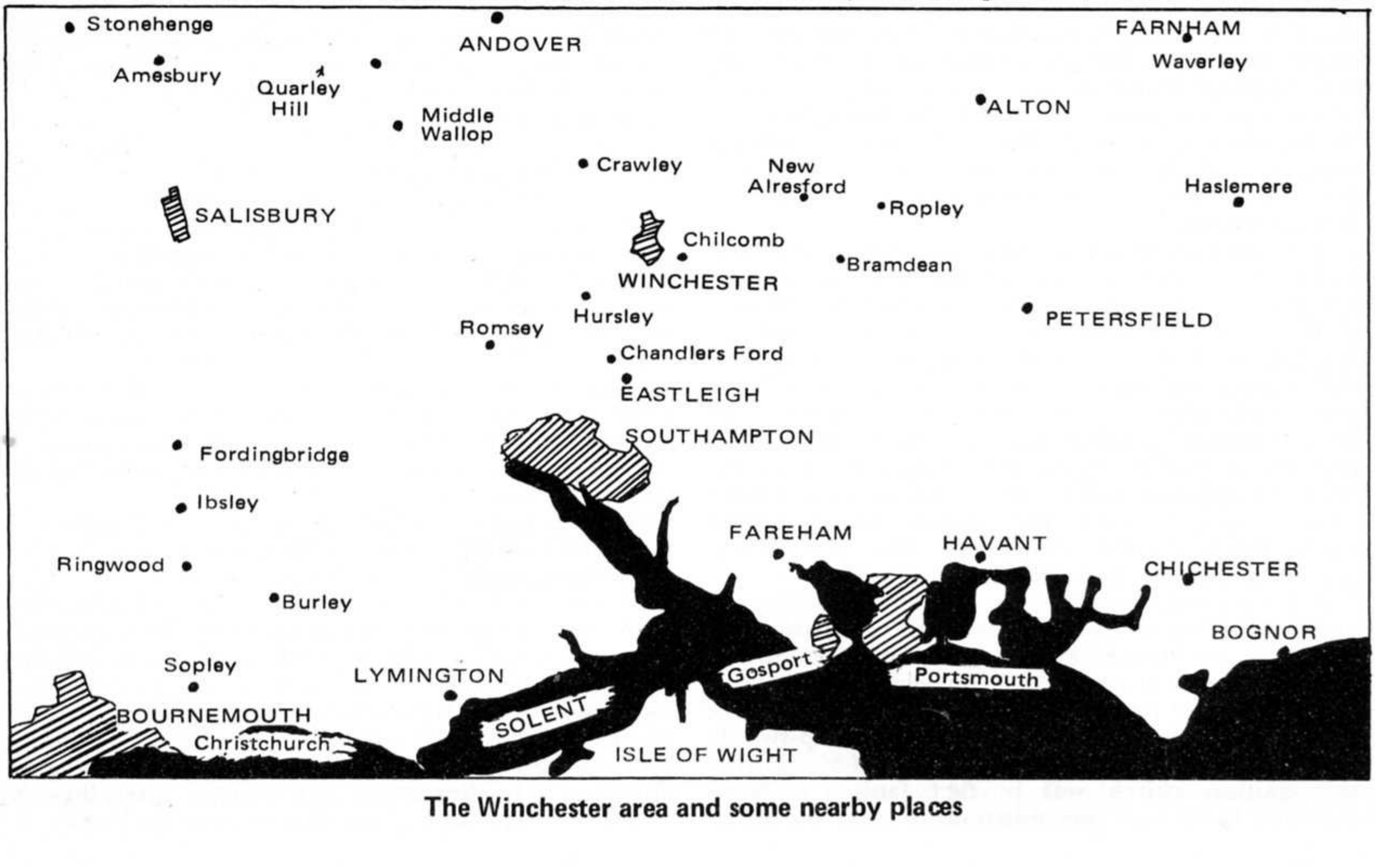
Following my Wednesday visit, I went, after dark, to what I believed to be the location of the incident, and drafted a number of observations about it. Unfortunately I subsequently discovered that I had been to the wrong place, and therefore my original observations relating to this, some of which I have reported by telephone, are incorrect.

The following observations relate to the correct place, and include the results of conversations with Mrs. Bowles on Saturday as well as Wednesday. They also include notes on curious visits and telephone calls received by Mrs. Bowles on Saturday and Sunday.

The glow in the sky

Immediately before the car stopped and behaved unusually, Mrs. Bowles had seen a strange orange light in the sky ahead of her and about 45 degrees to her left, and it was this that had distracted her attention at the time the car stopped. It should be noted that she had descended about 150 yards down a sloping road, from the main road which sloped in the opposite direction. Therefore the main road was about 50 feet above her up a 45 degree slope. The hedges and undergrowth hid normal vehicles on the road from her view, but it is possible that the top of a high vehicle such as a double decker bus or a tall pantechnicon might well be visible, and if such a vehicle (a crane or excavator for example, especially if carried on a lorry) had an orange hazard light on its top, this might have been visible to Mrs. Bowles in the appropriate direction.

Apart from that possibility, there is another one which appeals more to me, being a more unusual phenomenon, and more likely to appear inexplicable. This is the possibility of a mirage. About half a mile from the point in question, and in the correct



The Winchester area and some nearby places

direction, a quarter-mile stretch of road with two major junctions has a total of about 100 sodium lights aligned end on towards where Mrs. Bowles stopped. If there was low cloud these could throw a strong illumination on it and perhaps give the impression of a glowing orange object. Mrs. Bowles insists, however, that it was a clear night. If we take this to mean there was absolutely no cloud at all, we are left with the possibility of low flying aircraft, particularly a helicopter reflecting the lights, or a mirage refracting them. Bearing in mind that Mrs. Bowles said there had been frost on high ground earlier but that it had thawed by 8.45 p.m., it is possible that a warm air stream had come in over the hills, leaving a large pocket of cold air in the valley. This I think would be the right conditions to give a mirage whereby an image of the lights on the main road could be thrown up into the clear sky and cause the illusion which Mrs. Bowles may have seen. Mrs. Bowles has driven this way many times, both by daylight and after dark, and if it was normally possible to see the lights directly, she would have been familiar with the fact. She knew these sodium lights quite well and insisted that the orange light which she saw was of a different colour to the sodium lights although orange, but definitely not pink. Sodium light is essentially monochromatic, but these particular ones may contain other components, modifying the pure sodium colour. If so, it could be expected that the refraction of the light due to a mirage would also cause dispersion, as in the case of raindrops causing a rainbow, and therefore the colour which Mrs. Bowles saw could well have seemed different from that she normally associated with the sodium lights.

After the car had stopped, lower down the hill, the orange light could have been shining through the hedgerow, giving the illusion of windows and people sitting in them. Mrs. Bowles told me that the windows were like bow windows (presumably projecting out from the surrounding wall) but were oval in shape.

I asked Mrs. Bowles about the apparent size of the object when she saw it "on the ground." She estimated its distance from the car as being about "5-6 yards," but was vague as to its size. When I suggested a car, she said smaller; when I said a baby's pram, she said larger. The windows were in the side and the "occupants" were sitting one behind the other as in a bus. She had no recollection of how or when it departed, because the stranger had moved towards the rear of the car, and they were both looking back to try and see him. When they looked forward again, the object had disappeared, and they never saw the stranger again either.

The pink eyes of the stranger

Although Mrs. Bowles had been quite sure on Wednesday that the pink eyes of the stranger indicated that he could not be of this world (not even an albino?), she was having second thoughts on Saturday because one of her children had once learned at school that blue eyes could look pink in the dark. I haven't heard that one before, but can well imagine that blue eyes could look pink when reflecting sodium light.

Mrs. Bowles' lack of previous knowledge about UFOs

On Wednesday, Mrs. Bowles told me that she knew nothing whatever about UFOs, not often watching the television, and presumably not reading science fiction. She hadn't the slightest idea that they might contain "people." When asked if she was sure the stranger was human, she said oh yes he was human all right, he was no ghost. She had once seen a ghost and that was quite different. Although human, they were unlike any humans she had ever seen before, especially with those penetrating pink eyes.

On Saturday, having heard that John Cleary Baker [*formerly editor of BUFORA journal*—ED] was acquainted with Mrs. Bowles, and was visiting her next day, I mentioned the fact, and she volunteered the information that J.C.B. used to work at Winchester Station, where they all knew him; "whenever there were reports of UFOs he would down tools and rush off to investigate them." General office gossip under such conditions would surely have acquainted her with some general ideas about UFOs.

Check for any lost item

Mrs. Bowles and Mr. Pratt left home about 8.45 p.m. with the intention of collecting her son from Chilcomb at about 9.00 p.m. As far as any of them could remember she did arrive there at about the right time, so the incident seems unlikely to have lasted more than five minutes. When asked whether she described the experience to her son, or to his girl-friend's family, it transpired that she didn't stop. She made only a cursory reference to the incident on passing the spot on the return journey. If she was as frightened as she said she was, I am very surprised that she drove back that way when there was an alternative. Although the alternative route might not have been known to her, it would surely have been known to her son.

Other events on Saturday and Sunday November 20 and 21

At about 12 noon, while I was with Mrs. Bowles, the telephone rang and she answered it. She came back into the room and said that it was a caller apparently from Guildford who said he had read about her experience in the *Sun* on Thursday morning, and was calling to tell her that the Government were very displeased with the publicity she was getting, that an official would be visiting her, and that she must not talk about it to anyone.

The same caller rang again about 15 minutes later and repeated the warning. He also warned that next time "they" might take her away and connect her up with wires, so she must not have anything to do with them. He rang again during the afternoon. Each time she took the same line, saying "this is a free country and I shall talk to whom I please, and neither you nor the Government will stop me." I advised her to tell the caller that she had reported him to the

police, in the hope that a hoaxer would be scared off.

A real call from a Government office would hardly be made at mid-day on a Saturday when there had been all the week during which they could have contacted her following the first TV broadcast.

I immediately tried to contact Ken Philips by telephone, but getting no reply from his telephone, I rang Richard Nash and warned him what was happening.

On Saturday afternoon, Mrs. Bowles had a visit from a young man from Fulham, in London, who called himself Richard Lawrence. He claimed to be interested in UFOs but to be "sceptical." Mrs. Bowles told him about her experience and found him quite pleasant.

While he was with her, she received a telephone call from another young man, who gave his name as Richard Lawrence. She said, "but you can't be. Richard Lawrence is with me now."

It turned out that both young men were named Richard Lawrence, and both came from London specially to see her. They met at her house, apparently for the first time. I felt somewhat uneasy about this incident.

Final Observation

So much for reporting on actual events of the past few days, and my attempts to explain them by rational explanations. I now come to an equally factual observation which may arise from an extraordinary coincidence, or may give a clue to a possible non-rational factor, which is common to this sighting and to others of which we have read reports. This is concerning the subject of leys.

I recently read A. Watkins' book *The Old Straight Track,* and have found that there are many alignments of the type he describes in my home county of Dorset, indicating ancient routes between various landmarks on the coast and known ancient centres of population. Winchester is such an ancient centre, and there are many others within a 30 mile radius. I noticed that the location of this sighting was not unlike the sites of some of Watkins' tracks, particularly if one observed the nature of the terrain through scrubland forming an extension to the line of the section of dead straight road on which the event occurred.

To cut a long story short, about 11 miles ESE of Winchester is Old Winchester Hill, noted for its hill fort and tumuli.

Winchester itself is a very old city, certainly having been there in Roman times, and it has at least six Roman Roads converging on it. The original alignment of four of these Roman roads is such that they would miss the city centre and pass along the city boundaries. This suggests that at least these four roads were there before the Romans came. Three of them meet at a point about half-a-mile north of Winchester, and if this point is also joined by a straight line to Old Winchester Hill, we find on this line, the following....

2½ miles from Old Winchester Hill on the opposite side of a valley: a tumulus;
4½ miles from Old Winchester Hill, connected by a footpath to the last one: another tumulus;
6¼ miles from O.W.H., probably visible from the last one, and connected by a road: another tumulus;
8¼ miles from O.W.H., probably not visible, but on the same ridge: another tumulus;
10¼ miles from O.W.H. more tumuli visible from the last one;
11½ miles, the junction of three Roman Roads from which the last tumuli are probably visible;
9¾ miles from O.W.H., the piece of road on which Mrs. Bowles had her experience is exactly aligned with and is on the same line, and the tumuli either side of it should both be visible from there.

I have seen some good alignments on maps but never one more striking than this one. I doubt very much whether there is another piece of road in Hampshire with a more obvious association with a ley.

Note also the nearby place names: Fawley Down (overlooks Chilcomb), Crawley, Brockley, Eastleigh, Downleaze, Hazeley, Hursley, Baddesley, Ropley, Hattingley, Summerley, Ashley, Botley, Oakley, Bramley, Durley, Lockerley, Tytherley, Netley, and so on.

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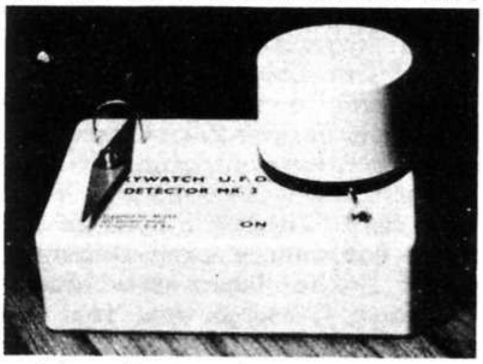

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UFOs AND MYSTERIOUS DEATHS OF ANIMALS

PART I: THE ANIMAL DEATHS IN PUERTO RICO

Sebastion Robiou Lamarche

Our contributor is an engineer who lives in Puerto Rico. He sent the text and photographs to Gordon Creighton, who had already commenced translating the version that appeared in the Spanish magazine Stendek, No.22, December 1975. The second part was published in Stendek No.23 of May 1976.

FREQUENT attempts have been made to correlate the appearance of UFOs with the mysterious deaths or disappearances of animals in certain regions of the world.

A famous case is that of "*Snippy*", the horse found mutilated at Alamosa in the State of Colorado, USA, in November 1965, and whose mysterious fate has been linked by various investigators with UFO happenings in that part of the country.

The year 1973 saw, both in the USA and in the whole of Latin America, what was possibly the most important UFO Wave of recent times. During the following year, 1974, it was the turn of Europe to have abundant UFO sightings.

Following a similar pattern, mysterious deaths of animals began to be reported, from January 1974 onwards, from various American States, notably Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, Colorado, Oklahoma, and Minnesota. (See APRO Bulletin Vol. 23, No.4, January-February 1975. Also Jerome Clark's article "The Strange Case of the Cattle Killings," in *Fate* for August 1974.)

More recently, on March 4, 1975, the influential newspaper *The New York Times* reported "numerous mutilations of animals in the northern part of Texas and in Oklahoma", and stated that Governor David Boren of Oklahoma had launched an enquiry into the question of mysterious deaths of animals.

In many of the cases the dead animals have been found to lack an organ (an ear, the tonge, the nose, the tail, or the reproductive organs) and the mutilations have been carried out "with the skill of a professional." Such, in fact, was the conclusion of professors of Medicine in the University of Minnesota after they had performed numerous autopsies on the carcases of such animals (see *Replica*, Miami, Florida, March 19, 1975). Furthermore, it was noted that the dead animals all appeared to be "completely without blood" as though the body had been drained by a needle."

Here in Puerto Rico, between February and July of 1975, numerous cases occurred of deaths of animals in almost identical circumstances *and coincidentally with the occurrence, in the selfsame geographical region* as dozens of UFO cases and of cases of other phenomena held to be related to UFOs.

In the course of our enquiries we have conducted scores of interviews, made many laboratory studies, and spent months of time on analyses and sifting the material. What follows below is, in concentrated form, the gist of our work, which may well throw an entirely new light upon the UFO phenomenon.

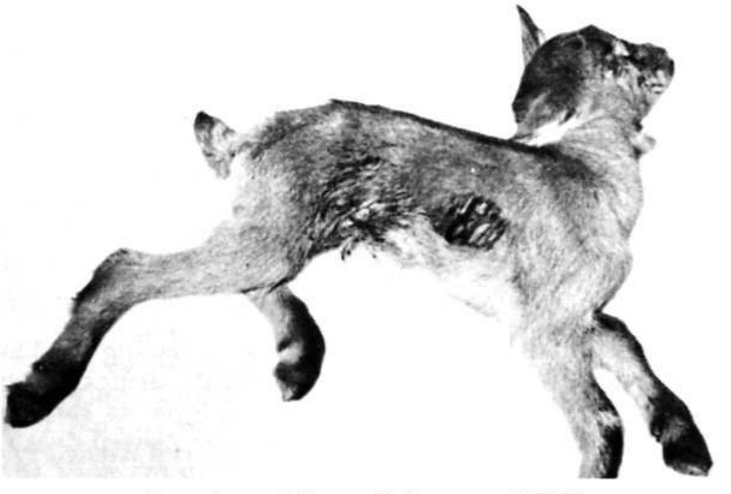
The Mystery Killings

The first deaths took place before February 25, 1975.

Then, from that date onwards, innumerable strange killings of animals began to be reported from the area around the town of Moca in the Northwestern corner of the Island of Puerto Rico. Then, at the end of March 1975 there came the first report from nearby Aguadilla, and cases began appearing gradually in other areas too.

Already in March the term "The Vampire of Moca" had been coined and was current among the people, this being the alleged cause of the strange animal killings. These reports were headlined in the chief daily papers. One journal, *El Vocero*, which gave extensive publicity to the killings, called upon the Government, in an editorial on March 15, to investigate the enigma, and reverted to the same theme in its editorial of March 21.

As a possible explanation for the deaths that had occurred up to then consideration was at first given to *snakes*. Dr. Juan A. Rivero, the herpetologist at the University of Puerto Rico, investigated the cases and stated on March 22 that the deaths of cows, goats, and birds "definitely were not caused by any snake." On the same date, Saturday, March 22, Senator Miguel A. Deynes Soto, President of the Agricultural Commission of the Puerto Rico Senate, visited the Moca district, together with Attorney-



Case from Moca, February, 1975

General, Victor Calderon, and the Police Commandant for the Western Region, Colonel Samuel Lopez. The theory that snakes might have been the possible cause having been ruled out, the authorities now began to think that the "Vampire of Moca" was some mentally unbalanced human. And so public promises were made that he would speedily be captured and brought to justice. So far as we know however, up to the present time no charges have been brought against anyone . . .

On the following day, March 23, veterinarian Mariano Santiago, of the Federal Department of Agriculture, said of his investigations that he had come to the conclusion that he was unable to explain the causes of the "strange wounds" found on the bodies of the animals. After that there arose a widespread popular belief that the mystery deaths were the work of "vampire bats." So once more Dr. Juan A. Rivero himself, author of various works on the zoology of the Caribbean Region, had to make it clear, in statements published on April 7, that that possiblity was ruled out too.

Meanwhile, a few days previously, Police Superintendent Astol Calero Toledo had declared "I don't believe in vampires!" But he was quite unable to give the newspapermen an explanation for the dead animals.

On April 9, Sr. Felipe N. Rodríguez, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, stated that "the situation is preoccupying – and occupying all the time of – my Department." And another spokesman, Sr. Isaías Fernández, Federal Meat Inspector, said that he "did not know the reason for the deaths of the animals."

Throughout the month of April further cases were occurring around the Metropolitan Area of San Juan itself, coinciding in time with various UFO sightings in different parts of the island. In July there were more cases of animal mutilation in the area where they had started, Moca. Up till today no official report whatsoever has been made giving any attempt to explain the mystery killings.

The Features Observed

The undermentioned observations are valid in all the cases that have occurred:

1. The animals are killed during the night, usually in the early morning hours.
2. In almost every case, the owner of the animals, even when he is sleeping quite near to them, perceives no noise or alarm among the animals themselves.
3. In some of the cases the owner is awakened by a "loud screech" or by what sounds like the flapping of the wings of a gigantic bird. In a few of the cases the owner states that he saw "a strange animal" fleeing immediately after the attack on his animals.
4. The animals give the appearance of having died as a result of the wounds received, although in certain other cases these do not look as though they are sufficiently serious to have caused death.
5. The wounds on the animals seem in many of the cases to follow a definite pattern. They look as though they have been produced by a sort of *punch* or sharp pricking instrument which cuts through all organs or bones that it encounters in its path. The wounds seem to vary according to the size of the animal. In the case of birds, the diameter of the wounds is about one quarter of an inch; in cases of goats, the diameter is over an inch. The depth of penetration of the wound also varies in many cases. But what is above all particularly curious to note is that *there is never a drop of blood anywhere around the wound.* Furthermore, the wound remains open: that is to say, it is as though the instrument producing the wound has simultaneously extracted any flesh or organs which it encountered in its passage.

   The positions of the wounds vary, but in the majority of the cases they occur near the neck of the animal or in its thorax.
6. In addition to the wounds, some of the animals also have their neck completely broken. And in a number of cases there is also mutilation of organs. The case that has been studied in this respect (Case No. 12) was handled by Dr. Angel de la Sierra, a biophysicist in the University of Puerto Rico. He reported that the cut inflicted on the ear of the piglet in question "is similar to what is done in experimental surgery for the purpose of investigating defects in hearing."
7. In various of the cases, the killings have been "selective." That is to say, in pens where there were other birds or animals, only one species has been killed. None of the other birds or animals show any sign of wound or attack.
8. The list of animals killed, and their percentages, is as follows:

Domestic fowls (hens, cocks, guineafowl, etc.)	182	57.8)%
Ducks	40	12.70%
Goats	33	10.50%
Rabbits	20	6.38%
Geese	18	5.70%
Cows	8	2.55%
Sheep	5	1.59%
Pigs	3	0.96%
Dogs	3	0.96%
Cats	1	0.32%

As can be seen, the bulk of the victims are domestic fowls. If we consider ducks, rabbits, and geese also as domestic animals kept in pens, then the total amounts to 82.58%, which indicates that the marked preponderance of the mystery killings involve animals kept in pens and hutches.

9. The cases occurred in both rural and suburban areas.
10. In cases 7, 15, 22, 23, and 37, the owners of the animals say they saw "a strange animal, very hairy, running away..." Or they say they heard "a screech, as though from a gigantic bird," or "a loud hum," or "a deafening noise," or "a loud flapping noise." Case no. 7 was investigated in very great detail. Don Cecilio Hernández, aged 65, lost a total of 35 chickens over a period of several nights. On the last of these occasions he saw "what

looked like a woolly dog, ...with no legs or head... running off towards the hills silently." And he adds: "I have never in my life seen such a sight. It looked just like a mass of wool running along."

11.The following other cases are not directly linked with the deaths of animals, but they do all involve accounts of strange animals:

a. María Acevedo, of the Barrio de María district in Moca, says that one night (12.30 a.m.) early in March she heard "a strange animal on the zinc roof of her house". She could hear it walking about and "pecking". Then it flew off with a "terrible screech."

b. Pellín Marrero, of Rexville, Bayamón, told the press that he had seen a "whitish-coloured gigantic condor or vulture" flying around over the region. (March 25.)

c. On March 26 the workman Juan Muñiz Feliciano, of Barrio Pueblo, La Sierra Sector, Moca, said that, when returning home at 10.00 p.m., he had been attacked "by a terrible greyish creature with lots of feathers, a long thick neck, bigger than a goose", which he reckoned to weigh about 50 lbs. When he called out to his neighbours and began throwing stones at it, it flew away.

On that same day, March 26, Olga Iris Rivera and Bárbara Pantoja, both of the Nemesio Canales housing complex, said they had seen "a gigantic bird flying around among the clouds."

12.The majority of these cases of mysterious animal deaths were the subject of Police investigations, but so far nothing has been published regarding the results of their investigations nor has any attempt been made to explain the cause of the mystery killings.

Some of the more enigmatic cases

1. The most mysterious and puzzling case in the Moca region, and the one that has been the subject of most investigation, both official and private, is the one that occurred at the farm of Sr. Héctor Vega Rosado.

Case from the farm of Senõr Héctor Vega, Moca, March 19, 1975 (goat)

On the morning of March 18, Señor Vega found two of his goats dead, each with a wound from some sharp instrument under the thorax and on the upper part of the haunches. Next day, March 19, he discovered to his great surprise, that there had been a repetition, with ten goats dead, seven wounded, and ten missing. The report of this received great publicity.

Sr. Luis R. Urbina, Radiation Instructor with the local Civil Defence authorities, was quoted as having found evidence of radioactivity. This report caused much alarm. Some few days later, Señorita Mildred Cabán, a radiation technician, stated that she had found a count of 0.005 in the same area. Our own investigations on March 22 showed however that the radiation detected with a Geiger counter was normal for the region in question.

The farm of Sr. Héctor Vega Rosado, where these goats had been killed, is to all intents and purposes quite open, being separated merely by a wire fence from the small adjacent road which links the farm with Barrio Pueblo, a district of Moca. There is no electric lighting in the area. Anyone who studies the area will find it extremely difficult to comprehend how anybody, even with the assistance of others, could catch ten goats there in the open field in the middle of the night and kill them with some sharp stabbing weapon and wound seven more and carry off a further ten. The wounds on the goats all lie around the thorax and are almost an inch deep. In some of the animals the wound goes right through the body, and yet there is no sign of any blood around the wounds.

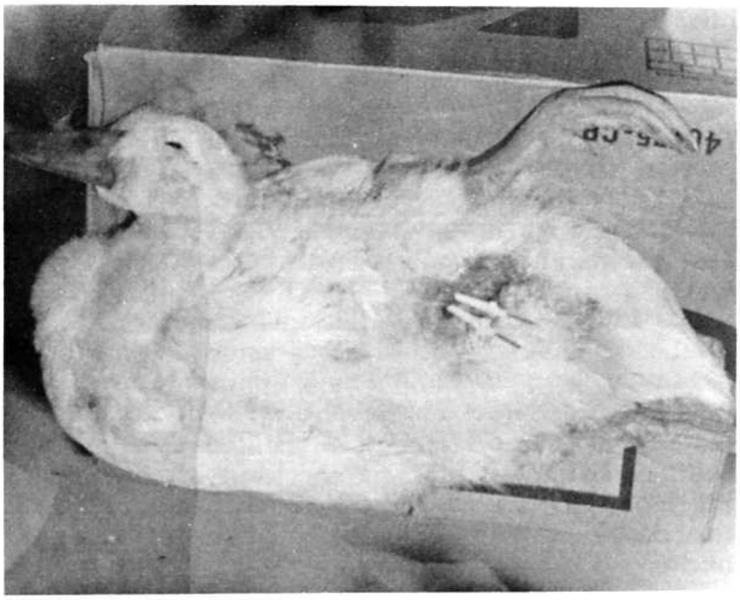
Although Sr. Vega himself thinks it possible that some unbalanced maniacal person might have caused the deaths, our own view is that, considering all the circumstances, the solution is not so simple as that. The Police, for their part, have published no conclusions about the case.

2. Before going to bed, Señor Buenaventura Bello was in the habit of going out to feed the geese which as a pastime, he kept in the back-yard of his home in Los Angéles, Carolina (part of the Metropolitan Area of San Juan, Puerto Rico). And so, as usual, he went out to the geese at 12.30 a.m. on April 5, though he noted at the time that one of his dogs, who always went with him, this time preferred to remain at a distance, "barking insistently at something or other."

Later that morning, at about 8.30, Sr. Bello found his ten geese and three pullets all dead and scattered in a circle. When the bodies of the geese were examined, it was found that each of them had a deep stab wound one-quarter of an inch in diameter, from which the feathers had been removed.

One of the dead geese was found in the back-yard of the neighbouring house, which was unoccupied at the time. This goose, unlike the rest, had had the upper part of its body cut right off "as though with a very sharp instrument."

Sr. Bello immediately informed the Police, who in due course conducted an extensive investigation,



One of Senor Buenaventura Bello's mutilated geese, San Juan, April 5, 1975

An X-ray of one of the mutilated geese

as also did the Federal Department of Agriculture, who took away several of the dead geese for examination. Thereafter, Sr. Bello's dogs "refused to go out into the yard, however much you tried to push them," and would not do so until several days had elapsed.

A curious point to note is that Sr. Bello's bedroom is right next to the yard where the geese were kept. Despite the fact that these birds are extremely prone to giving the alarm at the least sound, and are in fact used in many places as "watchmen", on the night in question Sr. Bello heard not the least noise, whereas he had always done so on previous occasions when attempts had been made to steal his geese.

On March 8, while in the kitchen preparing a meal, Sr. Bello heard, for a brief moment, a strange and "extremely penetrating" noise, which astounded him. Straight away, one of his two dogs started to bark frantically, "as though there was something in the room." The dog continued to bark in this fashion until the strange noise had stopped. The witness was unable to give any explanation for the noise, any more than there is any explanation as to what or who could have killed his geese in so strange a fashion.

In the course of our investigations we managed to have one of the geese X-rayed and to have an autopsy performed on it by a well known pathologist who prefers to remain anonymous. The result of this examination shows that the bird received two stabbing wounds which penetrated to a depth of more than an inch and destroyed the adjacent organs, while at the same time in some fashion cicatrizing the wound so that no blood would flow from it. The wounds are a quarter of an inch in diameter and appear to converge inside the bird's body.

Neither the body of the goose which we had examined nor the site showed any radioactivity in excess of what is normal for the area, nor were any other traces found. It has been impossible to establish the cause of the wounds, though everything indicates that both wounds were inflicted on the bird simultaneously, causing instant death.

THE DAGENHAM PARANORMAL RESEARCH GROUP

The **DPRG** plans to undertake a 12-month intensive study programme of an important facet of UFO evidence – the UFO photograph. We have enlisted the aid of a number of photographic specialists whose analyses will be published in scientific papers and in a general release book. *Photos and films for this study are urgently required;* high prices will be paid to those deemed worthy of analysis.

The **DPRG** UFO film and photo library consists of approx. 800 photos from a possible maximum of 900 in existence. Although we do not have every single UFO photo, we do at least have the important ones. We offer a copying service to researchers for which the only charge is the cost of copying material by a reputable laboratory, plus postage. Photos are available in 35mm slides or 3½" x 5" enprints. Maximum quantity per order: 5 photos.

All enquiries to: Barry King, DPRG, 554 Goresbrook Rd., Dagenham, Essex. RM9 4XD, England.

UFO PHYSICS – I

Jan Heering

AS part of an attempt to extract as much information as possible from the available case histories, James M. McCampbell has given us an admirable survey of physical phenomena associated with UFO manifestations.[1]

In the following series of articles a number of additional physical phenomena, not dealt with in (1), will be discussed and references to representative cases will be given. There is every reason to believe that the phenomena under discussion correspond to objective facts.

The true character of the physical mechanisms involved is at present unknown. This doesn't mean some of them couldn't be explained in terms of contemporary physics. See again (1) and also (2) for a number of most interesting attempts in this direction, in which emission of microwaves by UFOs plays an important role. The biggest part of UFO physics, however, almost certainly falls well outside the explanatory reach of current physical theories.

A good example is offered by the extraordinary accelerations routinely exhibited by UFOs (Compare with (1), chapter 7. See also part II, 4 of this article).

In several cases one has been able to estimate the weight of UFOs from the depth of the landing traces they left and the hardness of the soil.

A convenient measure for this weight turns out to be the ton. Nevertheless such a heavy machine often manages to leave the field of vision of the observer in a very few seconds or even less. In case (3) for example an object which must have weighed several tens of tons while standing on the ground slowly ascended to a height of about 80 to 100 metres, apparently to get clear of surrounding obstacles (an often observed behaviour), after which it accelerated and disappeared from view in 2 or 3 seconds.

Weight is proportional to gravitational mass and, according to the weak equivalence principle, gravitational mass is strictly equal to inertial mass[4]. In our case this leads to the inevitable conclusion that a heavy UFO must be correspondingly inert, which is effectively incompatible with the quiet way in which UFOs attain their extreme accelerations. On the contrary, they give no evidence of using any brute force propulsion system.

There seems to be only one way out: UFOs are able to reduce their inertial mass almost to zero. This would enable them to dart around like a fly with very little power consumption. Moreover, according to the weak equivalence principle mentioned before, such a reduction in inertial mass must give an equal reduction in gravitational mass (weight). And this would account nicely for their often observed ability to hover effortlessly for long periods of time.

All this sounds very pleasing, but special relativity theory teaches us that inertial mass is equivalent to energy. In reducing its inertial mass the UFO must get rid of an enormous amount of energy. It cannot radiate it away. An atomic bomb would be child's play compared to that, and nothing would remain of the UFO itself. How then does it do it, even while maintaining its original structure, or so it seems?

The four laws used, the weak equivalence principle, the law of conservation of momentum, the equivalence of inertial mass and energy and the principle of conservation of energy, are among the best tested laws of physics.

We have a stalemate here, and the chance that this stalemate can be resolved within the limits of current theory is remote indeed.

If the reader takes a look at the phenomena listed below he will realize that the same applies to virtually all of them. In a future article I hope to examine UFO related physical phenomena from the standpoint of paraphysics.

Because some paraphysical phenomena can be studied in the laboratory while UFOs cannot, any correspondence between the two fields could be of practical value to ufology. Of course, paraphysics isn't the most successful of sciences. Since Reichenbach's monumental researches more than a century ago progress has been disappointingly small. No theoretical framework exists. Experimentation is hampered by elusive subjective factors. Nevertheless there can be hope that one day all this will be different.

One last remark:
The study of the physical aspects of UFO manifestations will never disclose to us, of course, the real nature of the phenomenon. But what it can show us is that the physical background of UFOs is nothing less than awe-inspiring and absolutely non-trivial. It is no unwarranted extrapolation to think that the same two qualifications a fortiori apply to the UFO phenomenon as a whole. Reading these articles and studying the references the reader will, I hope, realize (if he didn't do so already) that all theories proposed so far to explain UFOs and their behaviour are ill-founded, uninteresting and even ridiculous if viewed in the light of the sheer impressiveness of the evidence.

Although we know a lot more about their phenomenology than we did thirty years ago, we are as far from understanding UFOs as ever, that is we understand nothing. We had better get used to the idea that it will stay that way for a long time to come.

UFO related physical phenomena

As already said, only physical effects/mechanisms not covered in (1) are listed. No claims to completeness in any sense is made, nor to much originality. This is a

compilation entirely based on the work of others (see references).

I have refrained from summarizing the case histories. The original stories are infinitely more interesting and rich in relevant detail than summaries could ever be.

I would appreciate it very much if readers would bring to my attention any good cases giving further evidence of the phenomena listed below. My address is: Hofgeest 241, Amsterdam, Holland.

1. Emission of slowly propagating luminous beams ('solid light')
In a number of cases UFOs have been observed to emit slowly propagating luminous beams. Sharply defined edges and uniform luminosity give them an appearance of solidity.

But they are not really solid:— At Trancas[102] one of the women involved put part of her right forearm into such a beam. She felt a powerful sensation of heat, but her skin was not affected. The beam itself remained unaltered. Her arm didn't cast a shadow.

The same lack of shadow zone was observed in case 109:— A square beam entering a room through the window wasn't hampered by the window frame. The part of the beam inside the room had a very strong and strictly uniform luminosity which didn't illuminate the room itself. Nevertheless, a projection of the window frame was visible on the opposite wall.

It is important to realize that we must distinguish between the light emitted by the beam and the light emitting process or substance or whatever-it-is inside it.

A 'solid light' beam presumably is a sharply defined tubelike zone at every point of which light is produced. Compare with a TL. The length and shape of the zone can be controlled by the UFO.

In some cases the emitted light could very well be of the usual kind we are accustomed to, but in other instances it is definitely of a different character (109, 114 — see next paragraph).

If the above is true, the lack of shadow zones would be explained if obstacles are washed or even penetrated by the light emitting process. There is evidence that the latter is true: At Trances the beam not only wasn't hampered by Senora Yolie Moreno's arm, but it actually penetrated the fence of the farm and another one, aimed at the house, almost certainly penetrated the walls. Inside the house it become entirely lit up and the temperature rose by 24°C.

How the light is produced and how the production mechanism can be kept confined to such a well defined zone remains unexplained. The more so since we are not yet finished:— In case 103 a tube of 'solid light' proceeding from a mini-UFO slowly approached a transistor radio (which emitted high-pitched beeps while the UFO was close) and upon touching it caused it to wobble. This happened twice. Evidently the beam exerted a small force on the radio.

In case 117 a man was paralyzed by a red 'solid light' beam (he says: "Here it [the light] was and suddenly it ended. It was not like the beams from spotlights which you don't know where they end") and drawn towards the object emitting it.

Compare this with 111, 112 where there is additional evidence of light beams exerting a force. Whether these beams were of the 'solid light' type or not is, unfortunately, not clear.

A less direct interaction with the environment was noted in case 109. Here the beam affected the operation of the electrical pump of the central heating system.

Let's now take a look at the phenomenology of these tubes of 'solid light'. Typically the phenomenon first reveals itself as a relatively small protuberance from the main object coming out of no special opening as if straight through the wall (which could well be true in view of the facts just mentioned). This sometimes leads the observer to think the object is changing its shape (101, 103 — see part III, 6 of this article).

The ectoplasmic protuberance slowly and silently grows, taking the shape of a mathematically perfect hollow or solid cylinder or truncated cone. If cone-shaped, the beam either diverges or converges. The reader shouldn't interpret these characteristics too literally. At Ellezelles (106), beams started out by diverging to about 1 metre above the ground, and from there converged to a point on the ground.

In case 109 the beam had a rectangular cross-section and in cases 107 and 117 the beams were projected downward through an opening in the bottom of the craft.

The unorthodox character of the beam is almost always immediately evident to the witness, either because it abruptly ends in mid air, or because of its slow propagation speed, or both. But even if the beam is observed when static and terminating on the ground its sharply defined edges and uniform luminosity give it a very special appearance. In 114 the witness stated: "My first impression was that the machine stood on the ground by means of legs or pillars. Then I realized that they weren't legs but light beams" (Compare with case 119). In this case, as in 109, the beams didn't illuminate their surroundings (see next paragraph).

The eventual length reached by a beam varies greatly, but can be considerable. In 101 and 102 a distance of 2200m and 3200m was covered at a speed of 13—26 km/h and 13—19 km/h.

In cases 106 and 109 the beams were fairly long too, and, at least at Ellezelles, they seem to have propagated faster than at Villiers-en-Morvan and Trancas, but there are insufficient data to compute the speed.

Anyway, a wide range of lengths and speeds is possible.

Diameters also vary: from 5cm in case 103 to 3m in case 102.

Most interesting is the fact that a 'solid light' beam can follow a highly curved path (105, 106). The reader should keep in mind that the beam very probably emits light at every point lying within its confines, so that it doesn't necessarily have to follow a straight line as opposed to a light beam produced by a central light source. Evidently UFOs are able to channelize the light emitting process along a curve, somewhat analogous to the curved TLs used

in skysigns.

In 103 a partial withdrawal of the beam was observed after which it proceeded in a different direction (to the tape recorder this time). Although it is not explicitly stated, this must have resulted in a beam with a kink in it.

Colour and intensity of the beams, again, vary greatly. White and bluish predominate and the luminosity can be dazzling. The light, sometimes noted to be non-illuminating, is often described as having a cold, non-radiating quality. At Serdon (115) everything illuminated by the beam acquired a bizarre range of colours. Yellow and green maize plants turned blue, and the hand of one of the witnesses turned lemon-yellow, while she felt a slight ticking in it.

Having finished their task (whatever that may be — see below), the beams disappear. A slow withdrawal — the reverse of the production process — is most often seen, but not always. Oscar A. Galindez (102) cites a case, where the beams suddenly disappeared as if switched off, and in Traunstein (105) the orange-yellow 'feelers' developed green tips and thereupon disintegrated in a green mist.

At Imjärvi (107), in the words of one of the witnesses: "The circle above the snow suddenly decreased, the light beam floated upwards like a trembling flame and went into the tube of the object." This has led me to classify 107 as a 'solid light' case. Curious details:— In the case in reference 114 the object became wrapped in a luminous haze at the moment it withdrew the light beams it was emitting ("like a bird folding its wings"), as if the light-emitting process concentrated in the beams became dispersed around the object. Something analogous was observed at Goux (108). Here the UFO had a clear-cut outline while emitting two 'red bars' obliquely downward, but when seen without them, it had vague contours and was surrounded by a kind of halo. The main object at Trancas developed a dense haze before aiming a beam at the house, but here the haze didn't disappear while the beam was produced.

Now, what purpose do these beams serve?

In many cases they are evidently used as an aid to observation (101, 102, 103, 109, 115, 116). Other cases are less readily explained. The situation at Traunstein, for instance, is quite complicated and entirely beyond our understanding. It is aptly described by Ernst Berger (105): "Whatever it was, Traunstein object number seven carried out one of the most complex but apparently senseless missions I had ever heard of (...)."

The same applies to the Taizé and Ellezelles cases.

At Trancas a horizontal beam connecting two UFOs was seen. Humanoid figures moved to and fro between them and according to Senora Yolie they were inside the tube, apparently using it as a subway.

At Imjarvi a small humanoid appeared on the ground in the light beam. Its actual descent from the UFO was not observed by the witnesses, so it isn't clear whether the complicated behaviour of the beam had anything to do with it.

In 113 humanoids used what seem to be 'solid light' beams to leave and enter their craft. The other cases of this type are quoted by Oscar A. Galindez and Gordon Creighton in 102.

In the beginning of this paragraph it was noted that 'solid light' sometimes exerts a force on objects in its path. The behaviour of the humanoids in the three cases just mentioned tends to confirm this and shows its practical application.

Sebastian Acevedo (117) was paralyzed by 'solid light' and this brings us to another mode of application: in many cases humanoids have used paralyzing beams as a more or less harmless weapon. Although there is no evidence — as far as I am aware of — that this is 'solid light', it could very well be.

Additional references together with interesting discussions can be found at the end of 102 and 105. See 110 for a photograph of a UFO emitting what presumably are four beams of 'solid light'.

2. Emission of non-reflecting light

Witnesses invariably qualify this type of light in the same terms:

"It was a brilliant object, but it didn't illuminate its surroundings as for example the headlight of a car does." (207)

"I noticed the curious fact that this object didn't illuminate. The ground wasn't visible." (203)

In both cases the light was very strong, the objects were close to the ground (0m and 1.5m respectively), the witnesses were close to the object (23m and less than 9m respectively) and they were not blinded. Interestingly, it is sometimes explicitly stated by the witness that he wasn't blinded although the light was very strong (203, 204, 208).

How is it possible that such a vivid light doesn't illuminate its surroundings? The answer is simple: it isn't possible. This is an unknown type of radiation, perceived by us as light. It is apparently much less reflected by common objects than normal light is. It doesn't illuminate. Only direct rays reach the observer. It is somewhat disconcerting to realize that at night such an object would be (almost) invisible when looked at in a mirror. Apart from not being reflected, this radiation very much resembles normal light. It penetrates glass, we see it and it can be photographed (207).

A very strange effect was noted in case 201 (see also the previous paragraph): a 'solid light' beam emitting non-reflecting light entered a room through the window and projected the window frame on the opposite wall, while maintaining strictly uniform luminosity itself.

The UFOs emitting this kind of light are non-standard models. Intelligent spheres at Aveyron, a translucent sphere with moving spots in it at Uzes, a cask with two 'feelers' at Malataverne, etc.

But what does non-standard mean in this context?

The number of UFO shapes observed is so great as to make Detroit look green with envy. A UFO observed at close quarters always seems to have something special, different from all other UFOs and this could in itself

be a significant fact (see part III, 6).

Non-reflecting light is not easily recognized as such. The witness must be close to the light, the light must be bright, it must be reaching objects it can illuminate and it must be dark.

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TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

CLOSE ENCOUNTER OF THE THIRD KIND IN ITALY

Near landing at Santa Maria del Tempio in 1974

Renzo Cabassi

This contribution is the report, taken from a taped interview with the witnesses, of an event claimed to have taken place at a small village near Casale Monferrato (Piedmont), Italy. Our contributor conducted the investigation for the Comitato Nazionale Indipendente per lo Studio dei Fenomeni Aerei Anomali (CNIFAA) of Via Rizzoli 4 sc.B, 40125 Bologna, Italy, on April 20, 1974. Prepared by Charles Bowen from a translation by Francisco Izzo of CNIFAA.

ON THE NIGHT of April 15/16, 1974, Carla and Mauro Bellingeri, husband and wife, each aged 26, were driving home after a happy evening spent in the nearby village Cascina dei Rossi where there had been a festival in hommage to the local patron saint. It had been a very pleasant evening in every sense; folk had eaten, drunk (normally) and danced.

It was 0.50 hrs (local time) and therefore April 16 when, about 400 metres from his home in the village of Santa Maria del Tempio (strada Frassineto 15/A) Mauro Bellingeri checked his watch; it had been only three or four minutes since they left Cascina dei Rossi and, in a minute or so, should reach their house.

The Bellingeris were talking of this and that when Mauro's attention was drawn to a bright object moving through the sky to the left. "Look at that!" he said to Carla.

The 'thing' was high in the sky and possessed of such an unusual motion that it forced itself upon their attention, so much so that Mauro found it difficult to concentrate on the road in front of him, especially when the object lost height in a rapid dive, seemingly vertically, to stop, without wavering, some 12–13 metres directly above their house.

Mauro ran the car straight into the entrance gate and drew up in the little square in front of their house. He got out to open up the garage door, while Carla remained seated in the car. Mauro next returned to the car and Carla got out to join him; together they watched the strange object, Carla standing at the right and her husband to the left, respectively, of the car. As will be seen from the report they make after the event, their attention was entirely concentrated on that very prominent part of the object which they described as the 'cockpit,' a feature that was bright, but not particularly so.

The object hung motionless in the air as they stared at it: at approximately 12–13 metres above the ground, soundless, and in level trim. It consisted of two clearcut portions: the first a sort of dome (the Bellingeris' 'cockpit'), bright inside and completely transparent, roughly hemispherical in shape (see Fig. 1); the second, a diametrical disc-shaped ring surrounding the 'cockpit' at its base. The ring did not seem to be in one part with the 'cockpit.' Indeed it appeared detached from it, and carried lights like 'electric bulbs' of red, yellow and green which rotated clockwise and slowly in a horizontal plane (one circuit, it seems, in every 20 seconds). The coloured lights were arranged in alternate groupings, red–yellow–green–red–yellow–green, and so on, and Mauro, who has a good knowledge of electrical lighting, describes them as being anomalous, but he cannot specify if they were either part of the ring, or sources of light on which the ring (by way of a screen) was sliding. To him those lights recalled, both in power and effect, the strobe lights of police vehicles, giving the illusion of intermittence while in reality they revolve.

Under the ring Carla said she could see two 'protuberances' just beneath the 'cockpit,' but Mauro could neither confirm nor deny this.

The UFO reflected the light of some flood-lamps switched on at night in the nearby Torno building yard, which faces Bellingeri's house. On that holiday evening such illumination was more powerful than on other evenings, and it lit up the Bellingeri house too. Indeed it was Carla's personal view that this illumination could have attracted the object.

Occupants?

The Bellingeris stated that they could see three seemingly human shapes (they called them 'people' in the 'cockpit') arranged in a horizontal row in what was assumed to be the front of the dome. A lightly shaded zone surrounded the three darker silhouettes which seemed to make slight movements. The outermost [*not clear what is meant by that – C.B.*] silhouette, which seemed similar to the other two, was nearest to the witnesses. Accordingly it was very useful for a general description of the morphology of all three entities.

The entities appeared to have big greyish round helmets, completely opaque and, near the base (that is, at the point where one would expect the head to end, and the shoulders to begin) and corresponding with the presumed front of the head, there was

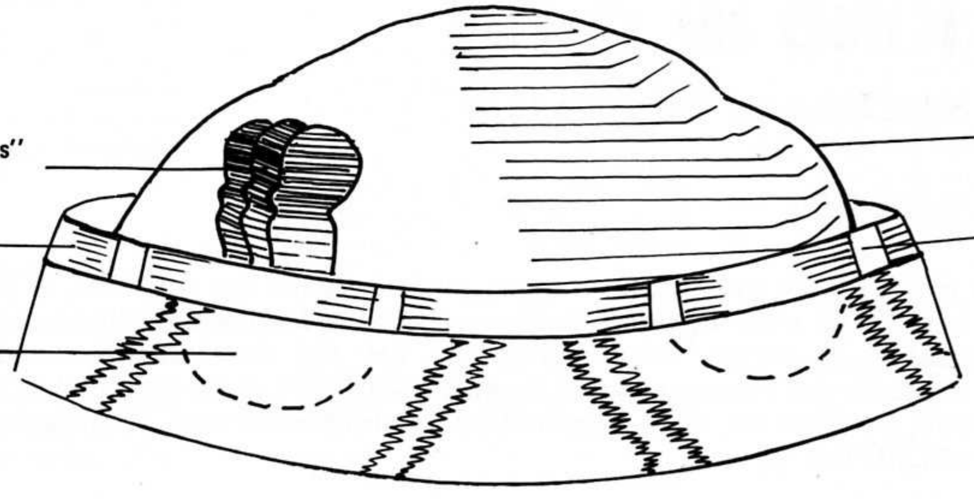

Fig. 1. Diagrammatic sketch of the object based on a drawing by the witnesses with additional details supplied by them

a protuberance similar to a sort of valve with a nozzle such as that used by frogmen.

Suddenly the outermost silhouette rotated its head in the direction of the Bellingeris, as if it desired to look at them, but it soon returned to its original position. Then all three silhouettes rotated to the right as if the base on which they were located had turned. At this point three or four jets blazed out beneath the UFO, and apparently in phase with a peculiar pulsating, 'whizzing' noise. The lights increased the speed of their rotation, and it seems there was also some connection between the sound and the rotation, as the rotation increased when the sound commenced. The noise was not unlike that made by a whirling sling; a kind of 'sound pulsation.'

Finally the object departed at the same altitude in a north-easterly direction, with the 'cockpit' lightly rotating 'rightwards' [*presumably anti-clockwise?*—C.B.] As it went the UFO passed low over the pebbly shore of the River Po, going in the direction of Valenza-Milan (Lombardy).

As the UFO began to depart, namely when the jets blazed and the strange sound was heard, Carla ran in a panic into the house, while Mauro remained where he was. He recalls: "I was forced to remain near the car by a great rush of air."

The witnesses

Mauro Bellingeri is an industrialist in a small way, in association with four other people in the SILCAM industry s.a.s., packing in wood. With an average education, he is polite, well-bred and rather shy. Before associating with SILCAM he worked as an electrician. He has no eyesight defects, or defects in his other sensory organs, and he seems to be a well-balanced individual. Carla Bellingeri, housewife, is the same age (26) as her husband, and is of similar character. Her maiden name was Fare. She seems to have been the most frightened witness of the close encounter, and she passed a sleepless and troubled night after the event.

Location

The scene of the alleged event is in Piedmont, 51 km from Alessandria. It is a rather prosperous agricultural-industrial zone. Casale Monferrato, the district near which lies Santa Maria del Tempio, is an important garrison area. About 30 km from Casale there is the aerial command on Mortara which, in the autumn of 1973 was involved in a radar-UFO/radar-case. Mortara lies in line with the direction of the UFO when it departed after the Bellingeris' observation.

Other sightings

According to information reported in the newspapers *Il Monferrato* and *La Stampa* of April 20, 1974, and thanks to information I gathered during my field investigation, the object in question was seen also by other individuals like Signor Enrico Giaroli, an amateur astronomer, who did not want to release statements about it. Moreover, Mauro's sister-in-law, who lives in the same house as the main witnesses, stated that she heard the noise but did not see the object. One of her sons, a child of three, looked out of the window at about 10.00 p.m. (April 15) and immediately drew back in, shouting: "The ogre, the ogre!"

Of course, when the story of the Bellingeri sighting had been publicised in the press many people stated they had seen something, but the reliability of these individuals was not probed.

Commentary and results of investigation

The Bellingeris have not experienced any remarkable physiological or psychological effects, other than

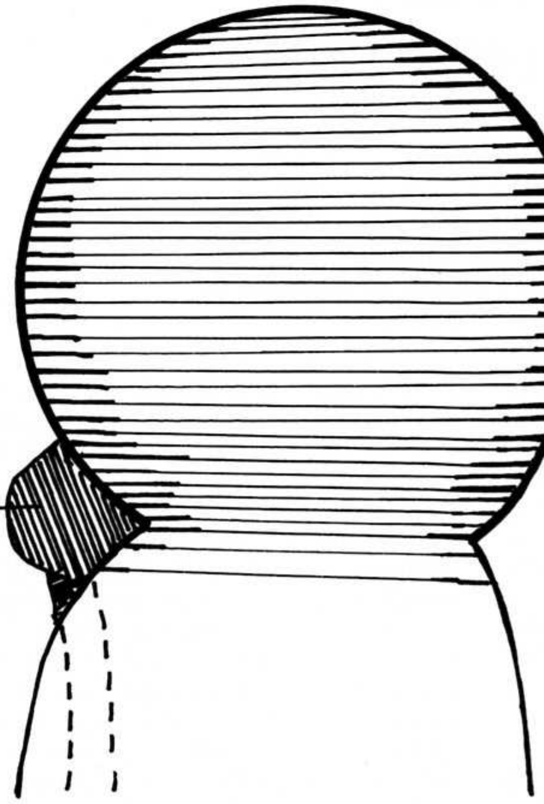

Fig. 2. The general form of one of the entities observed by Carla and Mauro Bellingeri. Besides the big, greyish round helmet, we see a sort of exhaling device as employed by frogmen, appearing as a protuberance near the base of the head.

understandable excitement before going to bed on the night of the incident. Carla had been scared by, and experienced a persistence of, the high-pitched noise emitted by the object on its departure but, on the other hand, she was not frightened by the unusual sighting itself.

One of their dogs, normally very sensitive to the passing of jet aircraft, evinced no symptoms of nervousness during the sighting.

It is difficult to state clearly the duration of the incident. Signor Bellingeri spoke during the interview of about two or three minutes in all.

A screening with the Geiger-Muller counter revealed no anomalous radioactivity, (1) on the ground in front of the house; (2) on the Bellingeris' car; (3) on the trees and the grass of the square [*front garden*–C.B.]; (4) on the clothes worn by both witnesses that evening. Two or three days after the event Mauro saw a number of spots and small bubbles on his car which he hadn't noticed at first. I suspect that these – especially those visible on the windscreen and the side windows – to be due to splashes of mud and so on, dried out under the hot sun.

Mauro Bellingeri's opinion about their strange experience is as follows: "I cannot pretend to understand it. It was certainly a 'disc' but I don't know who might have made it. If I had known more about this subject (UFOs) I would have gone into my house to fetch my camera. As it happened, however, I preferred to remain out there."

Said Carla: "I don't know what to say. There is a lot of talk about it in the village, but I don't know what to think." Under pressure from his colleagues in the firm Signor Bellingeri informed the press. Now he says: "If I had known previously about the resultant bother and harassment (inquisitive persons, ridicule, and so on) I would certainly have kept quiet."

My experience as an investigator is that the witnesses were very polite, and concise in the telling of their unusual experience. They have not over-dramatised it in any way, particularly where they might have overdone the sensational aspect, for example, of the UFO's departure. Not surprisingly they give some importance to their experience, but that importance seemingly has no ulterior or personal motive. Instead there is only the wish to make the experience useful to others in the hope that the enigma of their observation may be clarified: note for example Mauro's statement "...but I don't know who might have made it."

My feeling as field investigator was much as that expressed by Dr. J.A. Hynek in his book *The UFO Experience* (Regnery, Chicago, 1972 – see page 15): "...I realised at length that the reporters were telling because they wanted me to *explain* their experience to them."

To close, I have to emphasise that for ten days after the Bellingeri sighting there were other sightings in the same area, but less interesting than the first. As a result of these, according to an agency despatch: "An investigation to ascertain, if possible, the nature of some of the unidentified flying objects sighted in the last few days in the suburbs of the town (Casale Monferrato) has been undertaken on behalf of the Cabinieri [*an Italian military corps* –C.B.] with the assistance of skilled personnel." (ANSA, INCRO, ZCZC N.388/1 of April 23, 1974.)

THE UFO INVESTIGATOR AS COUNSELLOR AND HEALER

John Brent Musgrave

Mr. Musgrave is an American who lives in Canada. His contribution is the text of the formal paper which he presented at the CUFOS Conference at Lincolnwood, near Chicago, on April 30, 1976

UFO field investigators are more than scientific detectives. They also fulfill an important social function as counsellors, and in some cases as healers, in the sense of helping people to cope with extremely stressful and staggering experiences. Like it or not, it is a role that each conscientous field investigator is forced into by the nature of how people react to the UFO phenomenon. Because of this fact, more attention should be paid to this role when choosing and training investigators – without ignoring the importance of keeping to scientific method while carrying on UFO investigation.

By now it is commonplace that whatever may be behind the UFO phenomenon, UFO percipients have gone through a real experience which in general they try to describe as best they can. The intensity and genuineness of this experience has even been the main factor in convincing some sceptical investigators that the UFO phenomenon is both real and worthy of serious attention. For better or worse, our main source of information about the phenomenon (up to this point in time at least), is the UFO percipient. Because of this fact, attention has been paid to discover just how reliable and accurate such information is, and what kind of detective work brings out the most complete and accurate account of what was experienced and what really happened.

Attention has focused on the UFO percipient as a source of information. But at the field investigator level little attention has been paid to the UFO percipient as a person who has experienced something that potentially is the most traumatic and/or "meaningful" experience of life. In a growing number of cases I've investigated there appears to be almost a direct relationship between the "meaningfulness" of the experience to the person and the strangeness of the event. "Meaningful" UFO experiences make up a small percentage of UFO cases, but both stress and meaning are factors that play an important part in the UFO phenomenon. In addition to uncovering valuable data, attention must be paid to the well-being of the person who has experienced the phenomenon. Lack of attention to this on the part of some UFO investigators has meant that investigations sometimes have heightened the anxiety associated with a UFO event. It may even turn out that the investigators' role as healer or counsellor outweighs their role as data gatherers. UFO investigation has to be concerned about ethics as well as scientific method.

To my knowledge, no extensive quantitative study has been made on what motivates a UFO percipient to become a UFO reporter (or what motivates a person to become a UFO investigator for that matter). To UFO investigators what may be taking place is purely a matter of scientific inquiry. But the attempt to alleviate the stress association with a very strange experience is a large factor, if not ultimately the only factor, that brings people to report their UFO experiences. This seems particularly true of UFO events of high strangeness (and, need it be said, of potentially high information). Some excellent field investigators' manuals are now available. In addition to the matters of technique and data gathering they deal with, future editions should pay attention to the methods of dealing with such stress as now exists, and on methods which at least avoid increasing stress, if they don't actually help alleviate it.

Not enough attention has been paid to the uniqueness of UFO research. It is the only area of scientific inquiry in the non-communist world in which the major contributions are being made by "amateurs" – it is truly a people's science (which explains in part the reluctance of academic institutions to accept it). The fact that UFO research is carried on by amateurs has been both its strength and weakness. Anyone can be a UFO investigator or UFO expert. One corollary of this is the unfortunate fact that there is little or no adequate training or supervision of field investigators other than on a local basis or by means of field investigators' manuals which are the best that can be done under present circumstances. This has contributed to the harm that can be and has been done by unthinking or unconcerned investigators. Regrettably I've come across more than one UFO sighting where investigators have increased already existing tensions, or even created tensions that didn't previously exist. A recent example centred on an occupant report that came from the eastern slops of the Canadian Rockies during Autumn 1975. The main witness, a young woman, observed two silver-suited occupants standing on the platform of a disc-shaped object by the side of the road. She made the mistake of reporting her sighting to the local news media and was deluged by hundreds of sightseers and dozens of UFO investigators from all across North America. She was informed by some UFO investigators that she definitely saw a spaceship, that the occupants sometimes abduct people, and that UFOs often return to the same spot. The

experiences after the sighting convinced her never to report a sighting again, and was a factor in her decision to move out of town.

Unfortunately, this case is neither unique nor uncommon. Although it may be a bit extreme, even an experienced field investigator may say something that seems innocent enough but which will upset the UFO percipient. Investigators must pay careful attention to their use of language, and be aware that much more than scientific observation is taking place as they talk with the witness.

As a footnote, this and similar cases have convinced me that witnesses' names should never be made public without careful thought. Part of the UFO investigators' obligation is to protect percipients from the publicity and harassment that comes with making a UFO sighting a public event.

In addition to the kinds of stress associated with almost all UFO experiences, there is an even more profound stress associated with at least some kinds of UFO experience. The stress experienced by some UFO percipients may be at an even deeper level than commonly imagined. In an increasing number of cases I've been involved with (particularly close encounter, occupant and potential abduction cases), the investigator-percipient interaction is subsumed under that of the healer-patient. The percipient comes not only to tell a story and to understand, but also to "cure" or work through an experience. It is in part for this reason that unconscious communication of percipient and investigator can sometimes play a crucial role, not only for the uncovering and understanding of the totality of what occurred, but also for the working out of the experience for the percipient (and also in some cases for the investigator as well).

This is a heavy burden. Some field investigators solve it by not paying attention to it. For this working out may be a hazard for the investigator as well as for the UFO percipient. In these kinds of cases it may become an occupational hazard, if you will, for the field investigator to become physically involved and even controlled by the psychological projections of the witness. In such cases he is not only working with the percipient to find out more about the UFO experience, but ultimately he is working on himself as well. It should be kept in mind that investigators may encounter cases where they have a block in pursuing and uncovering the UFO story – blocks created by fear of working out the experience with the percipients. Any investigator who is working with these kinds of UFO reports should be well aware of his own instinctive disposition as to why he became a UFO investigator in the first place. It may be that a UFO investigator sits on a case, or doesn't uncover the full story, because the full story would force him to confront his own psyche.

Another consequence of looking at the UFO percipient as a person rather than as a subject is that healing considerations outweigh scientific considerations. For instance, I have a few potential abduction cases for which I believe this to be true. The latest one occurred in January of this year when at least ten independent witnesses observed a light dancing about in rural Alberta for about an hour. The closest witness, a boy of 10, reported that he could see portholes and legs as it landed near him. Subsequent to the episode, the boy has had a recurrent nightmare in which he is taken aboard the object by "spacepeople" from Saturn. I learned of this case only three weeks after the event. But by this time the boy was no longer experiencing the nightmare, and had difficulty in remembering the sighting. He now slept well, and seemed uninterested in the UFO sighting. His parents reported a number of changes in his behaviour. I've elected not to rush in with the hope of learning more about a possible "real" abduction. My decision to monitor how he copes with this experience is based on the obligation to do what I believe is best for the person rather than the obligation to learn as much as possible about the UFO phenomenon.

While the field investigator has an immediate concern for the well-being of the UFO percipient, it would be potentially fruitful for those in a position to do so to investigate the consequences of the hypothesis that at least some abnormal behaviours, psychoses and neuroses are in fact generated by "real" UFO incidents. Developments of the last few years have demonstrated that the Hills' experience is not unique. Others have undergone an abduction experience, be it real or otherwise, and others have become conscious of the experience only because they needed and sought professional psychological assistance. Even at a low stress level I know of more than one case of multiple amnesia episodes combined with a deep feeling of dread; it is at least possible that these were caused by a UFO encounter. Some abnormal personality changes may be the result of UFO encounters, whether they be abductions or less esoteric meetings. Without detracting from the physical aspects of the UFO phenomenon, there may be a typology of behaviour changes and disorders that are generated by UFO events.

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ROAD HAZARD DOWN UNDER?

Bill Chalker

A report of a bizarre encounter with a UFO by a lady driver of a car in a country district of New South Wales in Australia. Our contributor, who has a BSc (Hons) is an industrial chemist and consultant for the Australian Co-ordination Section (ACOS) of the Center for UFO Studies and Co-ordinator of the Sydney, NSW, group, UFOIC. His report is dated July 4, 1976.

THERE have been many incidents reported in Australia in which unknown aerial objects have followed cars, and several of these have contained a danger factor where the driving ability of the percipient is concerned.

Australian close encounter cases include several events of this type, such as the Pimble Station (Western Australia) event (27.7.65),[1] the Bourke's Flat case of 4.4.66 which involved the bending of headlight beams and possibly related road fatality,[2] the Wadonga occupant event (24.8.67),[3] the north-west W.A. case of November, 1969,[4] the Penrith to Windsor car chase (5.1.72),[5] the Mooraduc road car stop case of July 25,[6] the central Australian long distance car pacing event of August, 1972,[7] and the Tayene case of September 22nd, 1974.[8]

In most of these cases, the presence of the UFO has called upon the car driver to make sudden efforts to maintain control of the car, and often the event leads to the vehicle leaving the road. Only the Bourkes Flat case of 1966 is suggestive of a fatality related to the presence of a UFO.

The incident which is the subject of this report, represents a variation on this theme, and as far as I can ascertain it is unique. Some cases in the literature provide interesting similarities, but if the reader is aware of cases in which the phenomenon to be described has occurred, I hope they will draw them to my attention.

The incident

Early on Monday morning, March 22, 1976, a Murrurundi couple were returning from their holiday. Nearing the outskirts of Tamworth (population about 25,000), the couple stopped at Nemingha, a small settlement about four and a half miles from Tamworth itself (see Figure 1).

Nemingha, situated on the New England Highway, consists of scattered houses, centred around a road intersection and a railway station. The New England Highway leads to Tamworth 4½ miles (7.25 kms) approximately to the west, while in the other direction it leads to Armidale approximately 65 miles (104 kms) to the north east. The minor road at Nemingha heads towards Numdle, some 32 miles (50 kms) to the south-south east.

In Nemingha itself, at the intersection, there is a post office-service station, the Nemingha Hotel and some houses. Powerlines run parallel to the eastern side of the highway, and a street light is situated close to the road, in front of the post office-service station (see Figure 2).

The Murrurundi couple were towing a caravan, and they parked opposite the Nemingha Hotel, under the street light (in front of the petrol service station). They were studying a road map, trying to decide whether to take the road to the left (which would take them over a partially bitumened road to Murrurundi, via Nundle), or continue through Tamworth. The time was about 5.45 a.m.

Suddenly a small white car with its headlights on appeared on the road ahead (evidentally coming from Tamworth). The couple stepped from their car, hoping to ask the driver for directions, but at that point a bright greenish-yellow light descended from above and completely enveloped the small car. The light apparently disappeared, and as the car started to drift to the wrong side (to its right) of the road, it became enveloped in a thick ball of white haze. The car then stopped on its wrong side of the road.

The Murrurundi couple described the events that followed:

> "It seemed like two minutes had passed before the white haze disappeared (I assumed that at this point the car lights were out –B.C.). A lady dressed in blue stepped from the car and with a yellow cloth proceeded to wipe the windscreen which seemed to be covered in a white substance.
>
> "After a few minutes she was about to get back into the car when its lights came back on (apparently by themselves–B.C.). She stared, as we did too, then she threw the yellow cloth on the roadside, got back into the car and proceeded towards us.
>
> "We watched as the cloth she threw away burst into flames..."[9]

A driver of a utility truck pulled up beside the Murrurundi couple, evidentally having observed the weird phenomenon. According to the couple he appeared to be very frightened.

The small car, now being driven very slowly, came towards the witnesses, then turned (to its right) taking the road to Nundle. The Murrurundi couple noticed when the small car passed them that it was covered in a "...thick white substance not unlike white paint. The only part of the car not covered was where the windscreen wipers were working."[10]

The Murrurundi couple were very shaken and

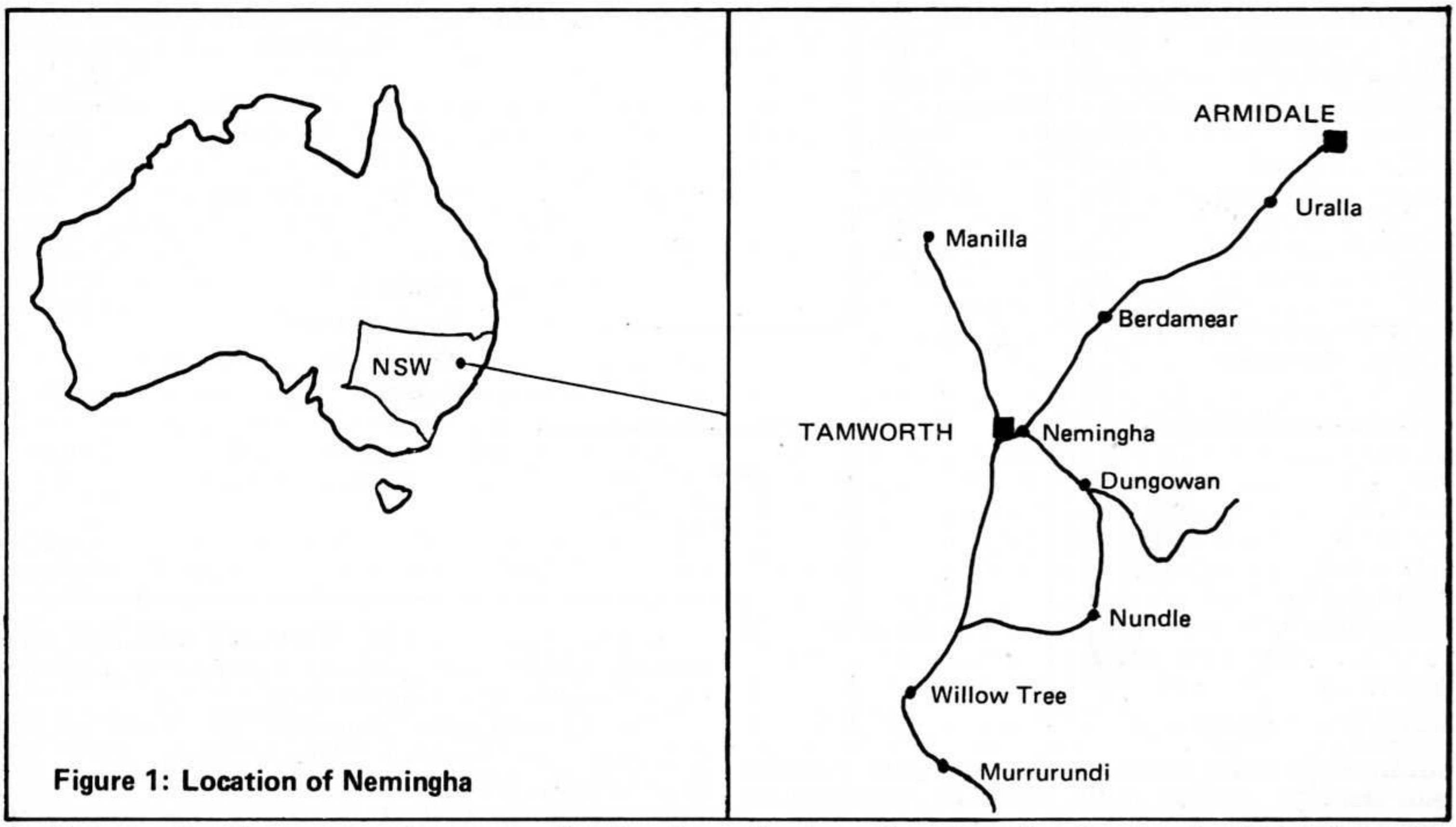

Figure 1: Location of Nemingha

decided to take the same road as that taken by the woman in the small car. They continued their journey at only 30 miles per hour. The area where the car had been during the incident was on the road to Tamworth, and the couple did not want to risk driving across it.

The couple were so upset by the incident, that they wrote to the Tamworth newspaper, *The Northern Daily Leader*. Their letter appeared on Thursday, April 8, 1976, in the "Readers have their say" column. The letter appeared with the heading "MOTORISTS UPSET BY UNEXPLAINED HAPPENINGS." In it the couple make the following comments:

> "We gave this incident a lot of thought before writing this letter as we were so upset. The driver of the little car also must have been shocked as she continued her journey very slowly.
>
> "Can anyone tell us what may have happened?
>
> "Could this be the explanation why some very good drivers are killed in accidents?
>
> "As this accident happened in minutes it could be the cause of many unexplained accidents.
>
> "Luckily for the person driving the car, the highway was free of traffic, except for ourselves and the truck driver who were both stopped. She may have been killed if the road had been busy."

The investigation so far

When the letter appeared in the paper, there was no reference to any unusual aerial phenomena or UFOs in the headline. Unfortunately, therefore, our clipping services and contacts apparently missed it. A young Tamworth man passed on the clipping to the Australian Co-ordination Section (ACOS) for the Centre for UFO Studies, based as Gosford, NSW. ACOS sent the material to me in view of the fact that the area had been "my home territory" during my university years, and because I specialise in trace cases.[11]

My preliminary field trip to the area, enabled me to reconstruct the sequence of events on the spot (see Figures 2 & 3). I examined the site on Friday, June 18, 1976, and any inspection served accurately to place the witnesses and approximate the path taken by the small car. A search for the "yellow cloth" was fruitless, and as we only learnt of the case several months after it occurred, this evidence would almost certainly have been long gone. A local television team visited the site just after the letter appeared in the paper, which was over a fortnight after the event. Apparently a search for any material was not even thought of, and when the TV story went on the air, it consisted mainly of interviews with patrons and licensee of the Nemingha Hotel. They had nothing of value to say about the event. I questioned these people, and it appeared that no local people reported anything unusual. The patrons did contribute low weight anecdotes about recurring nocturnal light observations over nearby Farrar boarding school.

The local newspaper, however, lent its assistance in locating both the witnesses and the woman whose car was covered with the white substance, by publishing a letter I wrote in their June 29, 1976 edition. In this letter I alluded to the following:

> "At this stage, I cannot offer an explanation, but I can point out that conventional atmospheric combustion reactions of the constituents of air do not produce precipitates like the white substance

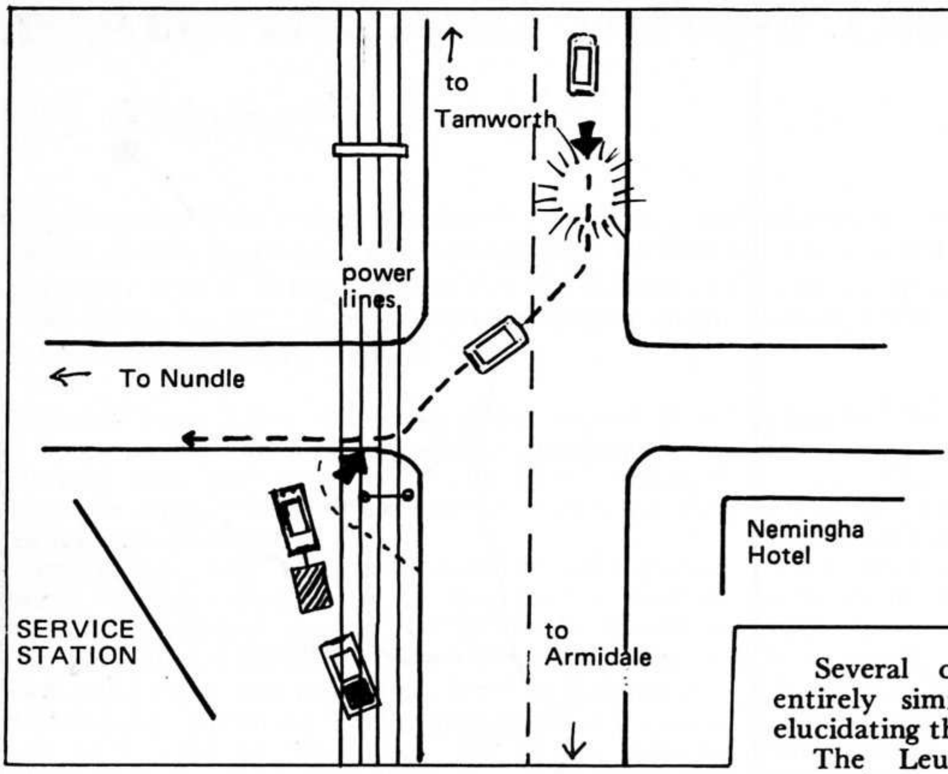

Figure 2 Nemingha and plan of the incident

mentioned, under normal conditions. But I might add that the incident could hardly be considered as being normal."[12]

Discussion

The case described in this report, presents a remarkable variant on the usual kind of trace case. Perhaps the white substance is a variant of that in the "angel hair" cases. Most of the latter cases could possibly be attributed to migratory spider web formations. But some cases seem to be quite inexplicable and therefore it is worth speculating on a possible mechanism of formation.

Combustion reactions involving the major constituents of air, namely nitrogen (N_2) and oxygen (O_2), in the presence of an electric arc, lead only to nitrogen dioxide (NO), a colourless gas. This is blue when in the liquid state. In normal atmospheric combustion processes, nitrogen oxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) are liberated. Nitrogen dioxide is a brown gas which can dimerize if the temperature is lowered, producing a colourless gas, dinitrogen tetroxide. At 22°C this vapour is pale reddish-brown, but at higher temperatures the colour becomes darker, almost black. All this tends to confirm Menzel's 1963 statements that isotopes of O_2, N_2 and hydrogen, and other elements in the atmosphere cannot react with their normal analogues to produce precipitates.[13]

Therefore I would suggest that the mechanism producing this white material would be either a relatively complex chemical reaction, or one produced in a manner hitherto unknown in the chemical literature. Any mechanism invoked as a possible explanation would have to explain why the "yellow cloth" self-ignited after being used to clear the windscreen of the white material in the incident described.

Several cases in the literature, although not entirely similar, are perhaps valuable in possibly elucidating the nature of the event.

The Leusderheide sequence of UFO events occurring on Saturday March 25th, 1972 at Leusderheide, Holland[14] begins with an event somewhat similar to that at Nemingha. The percipient was awakened by a loud humming noise, and soon observed light coming through his bedroom window.

I quote from G.S. Wiersema's article in *Flying Saucer Review:*

"My curiosity was roused and I walked to the window to peep outside on the street. I saw a blinding light, as if someone in front of the house had lit a Bengal light. I also saw a sort of 'fog' in the vicinity of that light. This 'fog' stood like a 'fence' on the pavement and was approximately 4 metres long and 2 metres high. Parked behind it stood my car, a V.W.1300. I did not understand what it meant, but my first impression was that my car was on fire..."

The man ran out to the car.

"I jumped into my car, while noticing that it was not covered any more with a layer of ice due to night frost, but that it was wet with melting water, in contrast to the other parked cars. So presumably there must have been a source of heat somewhere around. Was it the light or the 'fog'? I did not wonder about this until later. At any rate, it was strange and frightening. When I had started the engine, the strange 'fog' crept, as it were, round the car; at the same time I felt the back of the car bouncing, as if 'someone' had jumped onto it.

"In my rear mirror I saw the light (or fire) phenomenon at the back of my car and I thought that my car was on fire! I panicked and accelerated; I drove out of the street without actually realising where to.

" 'I have to drive,' I thought, 'perhaps that way the flames will be extinguished.' At the end of the street I turned to the left and after first going through a dry ditch and closely passing a few

trees, I then came onto an asphalted road. Panic seized me, I was terrified..."

Of possible relevance also is a motorist's encounter in Northern Sweden with "unusual lights, dense black cloud and kite-shaped UFO" on September 20, 1971.[15] Here the driver, Sten Sture Ceder, drove into a mass of vertical beams of light like the Northern Lights, then an unknown force moved the car forward until it was enveloped totally in blackness.

> "The blackness seemed to be a dense, floating mass of smoke that lay around me so that it was impossible to see anything. There was no light coming from the headlights despite the fact that they were switched on at full beam..."

Ceder drove out of the blackness, and simultaneously observed a black mass rising from the ground. It became kite-shaped and it eventually disappeared below the horizon.

Reidar Salvesen's Norwegian encounter of October 29, 1970, featured "an intense light-body, maybe 20 metres in diameter," with a very strong light, blue-white in colour. It hovered over his car and a few seconds later he viewed a distinct rounded aerial object. Salvesen fell on his back after he got out of his car, and his car's windscreen shattered at the same time. As Salvesen started to get back up, the object left.[16]

As far as I have been able to ascertain, few cases in the literature have exhibited the characteristic of a white substance persisting after a UFO encounter. In one case, of a patently bizarre nature, which I have been attempting to investigate, one "percipient" noticed a sticky white substance over the car.

A few years ago, two young women were relaxing in their residence in Canberra (A.C.T.), when they heard a strange noise. They both felt "compelled" to go outside to their car. The car then allegedly *drove them* ("by itself") to a remote site. They said they were escorted all the way by a brilliant light source. Upon stopping, a weird chant started up, apparently coming from behind the car where the girls could make out vague human-like forms. It seems that at this point, both girls felt or "realised" their greatest personal fears. For one it was the imminence of death; for the other it was a fear of being violently raped. For some reason the latter girl got out of the car. What followed them is unclear, but when she tried to get back into the car, she could not for several minutes. The reason for this was the presence of a viscous material like that in a spider's web which covered the door. Apparently the girls could now get away, and they eventually drove to the local police. The police apparently believed that something unusual had happened to them. They went to the site of the incident and then escorted them back home.

But, we are told, the story does not finish there. After the police left the whole sequence of

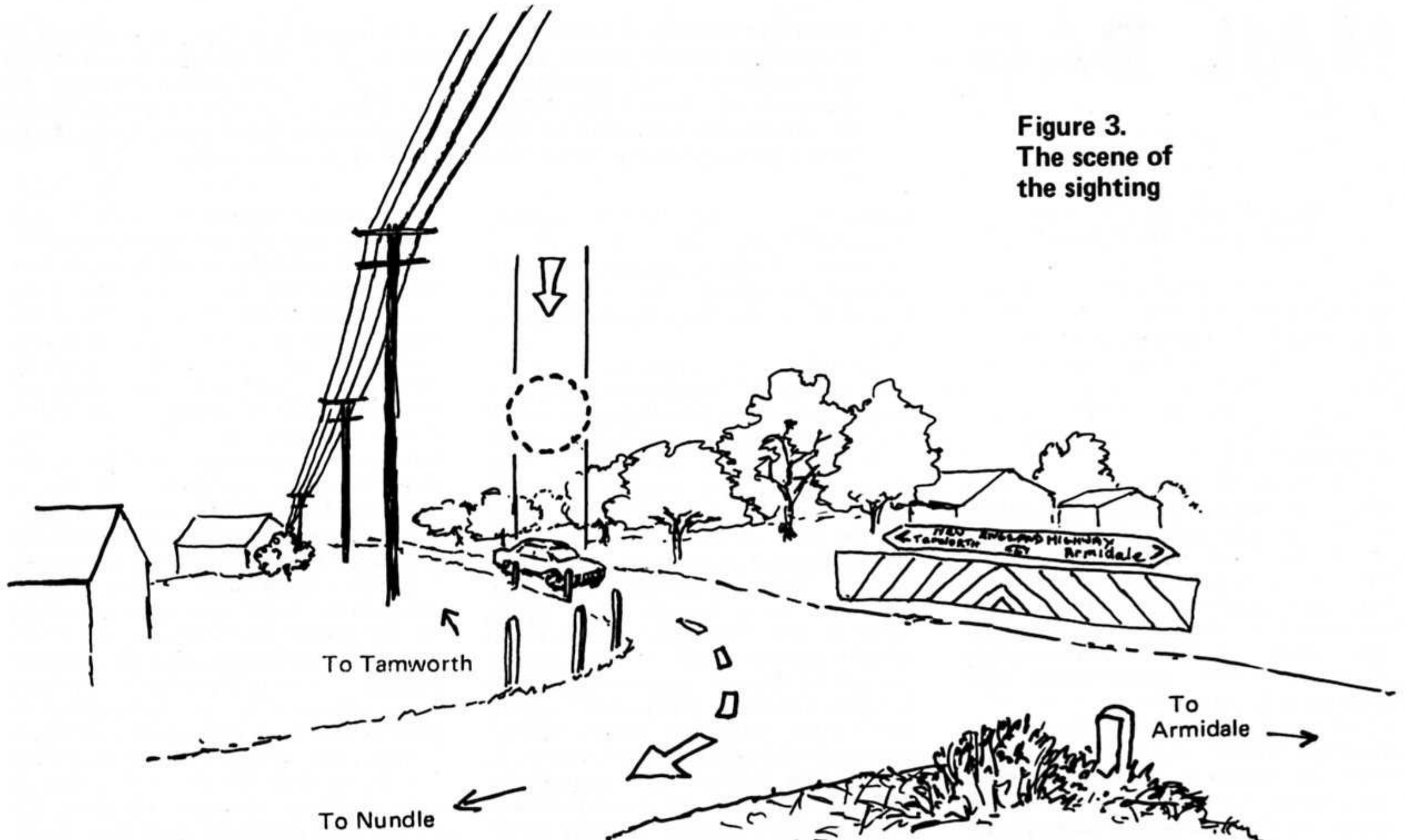

Figure 3. The scene of the sighting

events apparently repeated. This time fear was replaced by guilt – guilt because they had "betrayed a trust" by informing the police of the original incident. After the incident, the young woman who had left the car during the first incident, developed a severe speech impediment, and "lost" certain basic skills such as writing. Her friend suffered no adverse effects other than fright. Apparently as at now the "victim" has recovered from most of the post–UFO–event ailments. Apparently police patrols had observed strange lights during the same night, and one patrol had come upon a massive procession of snails crossing the road and heading towards the area of the bizarre event. Could the snails have had something to do with the viscous material?[17] This incident bears some remarkable similarity to the Umvuma to Beit Bridge UFO escort case in Rhodesia of May, 1974.[18]

Whatever the nature of the Nemingha phenomenon, further elucidation depends on receiving further information from the two witnesses, and from the woman who experienced it all. Had some of the white substance been recovered and subjected to analysis the case may have set quite a precedent for formulating theories about the nature of the unknown aerial phenomenon.

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MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

On J.M. Bigorne's "Forced Feeding by UFO Entities"

Dear Sir,—The events of the encounter described in FSR Vol.21, No.6 can, I feel, best be explained as a testing of the reaction of a chance human witness to a sudden and unexpected confrontation with the unknown and an *apparently* senseless action by unknown beings.

In terms of human logic, visitors from an advanced alien civilization would not approach a person alone on the road. Furthermore, they would not stop him, hand him something to eat, and then depart after he had consumed it. Human logic says that any such visitors would openly approach world leaders and land perhaps before the U.N.

However, in view of the all too frequent human reaction of fear – with its resultant violence – when confronted by that which is of the realm of the unknown, such an operation could only be termed foolhardy. Before contact of an involved nature could be initiated, some method would have to be devised whereby this fear/violence reaction could be overcome. Chance encounters with isolated individuals the world over would be an excellent means of doing this.

In these encounters, each of the witnesses would be approached and his reactions (perhaps also thoughts) noted at all times. Some of those who reacted with fear would be allowed to simply depart, as in this case. This would demonstrate the lack of hostile intent on the part of the unknown beings, for no attempt is made to prevent the witness from departing. In other instances, even though fired upon, there is no retaliatory action taken which proves fatal to the human being(s) involved – at most a paralysis beam is used on a temporary basis. In still other instances, these visitors approach the witnesses and engage in such things as physical examinations. Beyond that there are those instances in which they engage in some *seemingly* nonsensical actions such as the "piece of choclate" given to this witness.

In all such encounters, regardless of the particular events which transpire, each side obtains a bit more knowledge regarding the other. The more each knows about the other, the better the chances of a successful open confrontation at some future date. It would be expected that curiosity would ultimately replace fear. Thus, those instances in which a human being were approached and he sought only to greet the unknown, having replaced fear with a desire to learn from the experience, would indicate a measure of success in the *programme.*

That such an *alien study programme* might well exist is evident in the world wide reports of UFOs and their entities which form a definite pattern. There is a logical progression from nocturnal lights, to brightly lit objects that fly by, to craft that hover nearby and reveal certain structural details, to craft which land, to beings seen peering through windows, to beings seen emerging from these craft, to beings seen engaged in such actions as specimen gathering, and, finally, to close encounters with human wit-

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nesses. Each step brings the two groups closer together and thereby provides that much more data on which to work. The latter steps serve to demonstrate peaceful intent and scientific study to beings unknown; all progresses in a manner which shows definite purpose and which results in no serious injury to the witnesses. Every opportunity is present to harm the individual involved, and, yet, nothing of the sort takes place.

The witness in the case being considered was "very frightened" when he first became aware of the presence of "the two ufonauts." In fact, he was "panic-stricken." Thus, the first course of action would be to do everything possible to reduce or eliminate the overpowering emotion of fear. Reason would have to be in control if positive results were to be expected from the incident. An attempt to convey both the need for controlling reason and the needlessness of fear can be seen in the fact that at no time was the witness roughly handled; all the two beings did was grasp the handlebars of his moped and gesture "indicating to him that he should eat something."

That the reactions of a human being to a chance encounter with the unknown were being tested is supported by the fact that the entities exchanged glances as if communicating. Had the fear of the witness been noted? Was the "piece of chocolate" a further testing to see how he would respond to an *apparently* senseless action on their part? An action, however, which though seeming pointless did, in fact, serve a very definite purpose – that of showing the witness that hostility played no part in the event. He was offered the "substance"; it was at no time forced upon him. To quote the article, the witness himself insisted that: "the two beings patiently waited until he had quite finished eating the substance before they let him go. In fact, as soon as he had eaten the substance, they moved away from his moped and so permitted him to depart, which he did so with the utmost speed, terrified, without waiting for anything else to happen."

When everything indicated that fear, rather than reason, was in control, it became quite evident that little, if anything, of a positive nature could be expected to result from prolonging the encounter. Thus, it was immediately terminated and each side went its separate way.

By itself, then, the "piece of chocolate" makes no sense. But, when viewed as a segment of the hypothesized *alien study programme*, it takes on an entirely new light; it fits the pattern designed to eventually culminate in open contact.

Beatrice M. Zimmer
Fairfax, Virginia, U.S.A.
June 29, 1976.

World round-up *of news and comment about recent sightings*

United States of America

A creature from Wisconsin

This item is taken from the *National Star* of May 11, 1976. This newspaper is a tabloid which is distributed nationally in the States in drug stores and grocery stores, and the account tells of an incident which took place on November 10, 1975:

"The visitors that arrived unexpectedly on the doorstep of Peter Eilbes' house were out of this world. They had mouths the size of dimes and when they moved they drifted like astronauts 10 or 11 feet with each step.

"Now Peter, 64, a retired construction foreman, of Wauwatosa, Wics., is convinced that his uninvited guests were from outer space. And his wife Anne, 59, who was first to see them when she answered their ring at the doorbell, agrees.

"She told The Star: 'The first thing I saw was a hat one of them was wearing. It had a narrow brim which made it look like a flying saucer. I opened the inside door and stuck my arm out to lock the screen door. Twice I said 'yes?' and when I got no reply, I told Pete that whoever it was could not talk.'

"Pete continued: 'I could see about four others flocking around, though the rest of the street was deserted. We were surrounded by these critters. Their legs seemed to be moving, but they weren't touching the grass.

" 'The one at the door had a mouth that was extremely small, about the size of a dime. It looked as if he could only sip liquids through a straw, and his chin was fixed.

" 'It would be impossible for anyone to move the way these critters were moving. They drifted a couple of feet off the ground and moved 10 or 11 feet with each step – the way the astronauts walked on the moon, only more controlled.'

"Mrs. Eilbes said that the creatures left after about five minutes.

"When the Eilbes reported the incident, they felt that the police thought they were nuts.

" 'I got the feeling the officer thought I'd been drinking," said Pete.

"A spokesman for the police department at Wauwatosa, said:

" 'We investigated the incident but nothing was substantiated.' "

Credit: **Richard W. Heiden** of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Mr. Heiden comments (June 15, 1976):

After Ted Bloecher sent me this article, I called the witnesses again; the reporter had spoken with them only briefly, and took pictures. Peter made two drawings for them, but I feel sure that the drawing with the article was made by a *Star* artist (Peter did not have the article on hand when I called, so he did not know for sure). In the drawing he made for me, he would not draw the eyes, as he did not remember them. Also, there is only one step there (even if there were two, as incorrectly shown in the picture, the witnesses would only have seen the top one from the doorway where they were). I interviewed the witnesses for about three hours in their home, and also talked with them by phone a couple of times. They seem sincere and I am inclined to believe them, but I have made no reference check with neighbours, pastor, etc. (I am saying this only to avoid sticking my neck out with a definite conclusion at this time.)

Sketch of one of the "spacemen" based on a drawing by *Star* artist

England

Interesting report from the Isle of Wight

Our friend who sent the following report omitted the name of the newspaper but he suggests the report refers to an incident on October 11, 1976. The way the report reads it would seem to be a local newspaper, possibly the I. of W. County Times:

"There have been reports of sightings of unidentified flying objects over the Island on Monday night.

"Mrs. Shirley Rimmer, a nurse, of Furrlongs, Pan Estate, Newport, said her young son, Mark, and children of a neighbour ran inside 'terrified' when two large white discs appeared overhead before zooming off at speed with a noise like a thunderclap followed by what sounded like the ringing of bells.

"The houses trembled and I remember thinking, 'I hope it's not one of those earthquakes that have been happening around the world,' she said.

"Mr. Tim Woodward of Ashknowle Lane, Whitwell, said his house shook, then he heard a loud bang. Rushing outside, he saw five very large silver-grey oval-shaped objects moving at 'terrific speed.' Shortly after, the objects stopped and hovered over the Godshill area, before moving off again.

"Seventeen - year - old Andrew Gordon of Priory Walk, Niton, also saw several large discs and heard a loud noise adding, 'At first, I thought it was warships firing their guns.'

"Island police confirmed on Tuesday that the incident had been reported to them.

"A spokesman said the reports seemed to be made in good faith, and would be included on special forms with which the police are issued by a centre in London which collects such information."

Credit: **David J. Hatchwell** of Shoreham.

[*I deliberately emphasised the last paragraph in bold type. It would be interesting to know which centre collects this information, presumably on an official basis. If any of our policemen readers know, I would be pleased to learn, entirely in confidence, of course.* – EDITOR]

Iran

Jets chase saucer

This report was taken from the Nairobi newspaper, *The Standard,* of September 22, 1976. An Agency (A.F.P.) report, it was datelined Teheran, Tuesday (September 21, 1976):

"Iranian Authorities confirmed here last night that two air force Phantom jets chased a 'flying saucer' over the capital on Saturday.

"The two pilots reported they were chased in their turn by the mysterious object.

"The interceptors took off after Mehrabad civil airport controllers spotted a round object giving off red, blue and green light. When they intercepted the saucer at 1,800 metres, it shot off at 'several times the speed of sound', only to return and pursue them.

"When the pilots tried to open fire on it, their electronics and radiocommunication systems were 'suddenly paralysed'."

Credit: **A.P. Nield** of Nairobi, Kenya.

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